

## Miners rebel against union call to strike

South Wales miners appeared last night to be in revolt against union leaders' instructions to mount an all-out indefinite strike from Monday. Almost a third of the area's pits rejected the call. Of the 12 pits which had voted, only one backed the executive. The coal board denied union leaders' charges that it had interfered to influence the result.

## One South Wales pit in 12 votes 'Yes'

From Tim Jones

Cardiff  
Miners' leaders in South Wales appeared last night to be heading for defeat as almost a third of the pits in the area rejected overwhelmingly the executive's instruction to mount an all-out indefinite strike from Monday.

Among 12 pits where votes were known, only one supported the strike call.

As the results from the pit-head meetings began to be known, the union leaders angrily accused the National Coal Board of seeking to influence the result by "gross interference" in their affairs.

That was denied by coal board officials, who said they could not possibly manipulate a ballot held under the union's own rules. Although the final result of the ballot will not be known until tomorrow, it appeared last night that most of the 27,000 miners were rebelling against their leaders.

Before going into a special executive committee yesterday afternoon the union leaders said they would be making a full statement afterwards, but they declined to comment as they came out.

The strike had been called at a special delegate conference on Wednesday to protest against the British Steel Corporation's proposals to cut back steelmaking at Llanwern and Port Talbot. Those plans, the miners said, could lead to 50,000 redundancies in Wales.

After that meeting, Mr Emlyn Williams, area president of the National Union of Mineworkers, said he was confident his rank and file would back the strike call.

The proposed action was condemned by Mr Philip Weeks, area director of the National Coal Board, as madness. He said that jobs had never been more threatened than by "this single tragic act".

## Thatcher Bill to curb picketing blocked

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor  
Mrs Margaret Thatcher tried three days ago to introduce a one-clause Bill outlawing secondary picketing, it was learnt authoritatively last night.

The Prime Minister put the proposal to a meeting of the Cabinet economy committee on Tuesday as the Government's amendments to the Employment Bill on secondary blocking and other industrial action were being published.

But senior ministers, including Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, successfully resisted the move on the ground that it would do more harm than good. Mrs Thatcher's intention was, I understand, to extract secondary picketing provisions from the Employment Bill and push them through all committee stages as

soon as possible to prevent a recurrence of mass blocking tactics of the kind that closed Hadfields, the Sheffield private steelmaking firm, last week.

The Prime Minister said in the House on February 5 that she had been tempted to take action of that sort, but doubted whether such legislation could be got through Parliament during the steel strike.

The disclosure of events at Tuesday's Cabinet committee will strengthen the fears of TUC leaders that worse is to follow the Employment Bill when it becomes law. Sir Geoffrey Howe QC, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is known to be firm in his demands that the law should be changed so that trade union funds, rather than individuals should be at risk for breaches of the new law.

Unfortunately no one asked her about steel, not even Mr Callaghan. But the leader of the Opposition reckons that his censure motion has also helped strengthen the hand of the moderate in Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet.

## Water workers offered extra 2.2 pc

By Our Labour Staff

Pay negotiations covering 32,000 water and sewerage workers were continuing late last night in London in an attempt to avert a national strike, due to start on Monday.

The employers made an improved offer, taking the total package to 2.1 per cent. The extra 2.2 per cent offered principally covered the backdating of payments for parity with gas and electricity workers to last December.

The fact that there was little "new" money in the offer may lead to difficulties for union leaders who appeared last night to be moving towards acceptance.

Some of the General and Municipal Workers' Union's 21,000 members in the industry who overwhelmingly rejected the 19.2 per cent made at the beginning of this month could decide to take unofficial action.

## BL may impose new pay and work practices

BL management is expected to tell its workers today that it may be forced to impose on them the deal on pay and working practices they have repeatedly rejected. Without work practices in line with its international competitors, the company will be unable to make the new Mini Profitable.

"No" to defence corps

A secret Cabinet committee has ruled out the establishment of a civil defence corps on the lines of the organisation disbanded in 1968. Instead it favours a scheme to assist existing voluntary groups such as Civil Aid.

## Israeli envoys meet

Israeli envoys to European countries met in London to discuss British moves to associate the Palestine Liberation Organization with discussions on Palestinian autonomy.

## Tito detente plea

Belgrade, Feb 21.—President Tito, although gravely ill, today sent a plea for detente to President Carter. Mr Brezhnev and other world leaders. The 87-year-old Yugoslav leader has suffered from kidney and heart problems since his leg amputation on January 20.—UPI.

## Optimism on steel detected in ministers

By Fred Emery  
Political Editor

A gleam of light at the end of the tunnel in the two-month-old steel strike was detected last night by senior ministers. Their hope was apparently based as much on the political turn of industrial events, as in solid bargaining hopes.

But a new flexibility was asserted in a lethargic unbending government rigidities over money; the fact that the steel plant closures and redundancies could not go ahead from March 31 as planned by the British Steel Corporation meant, it was said, that there was additional room for manoeuvre over pay.

However, any deal had to remain self-financed by increased productivity, as had been insisted by the Government; but, within the rigidly set cash limit—set at £450m of taxpayers' money by the Government for 1980-81—the two parties might now settle the details.

If this is borne out by events it signals that the Government is at the least accommodating itself to the realities of a changing situation. Several senior ministers have made it clear in private that the strike cannot be allowed to drift on until the country meets disaster.

The Cabinet yesterday, while not apparently deciding any change of course, discussed the strike and, more important, the way it had to end.

Last night there was little support for ministerial optimism among either BSC or steel union sources. But the Government could point to the fact that the key personalities had been meeting in Brussels all day.

Mr Jack Pugsley, secretary of the Nantgarw colliery lodge, said: "We were prepared to join a strike approved by the TUC. But not to be pushed into going in alone. Our men are very angry."

Last night Mr Don Hayward, the union's administrative officer, condemned the National Coal Board for "gross interference in our affairs".

He said: "We shall be holding a special conference on Tuesday to determine how we are going to deal with the NCB for their action. We are a democratic union and do not expect our membership to be influenced in this way."

He maintained that throughout the day coal board officials had been forcing men to hold separate ballots and had been feeding them false information about voting results at other mines.

Sir Derek Ezra, coal board chairman, described the allegations as "utter rubbish". He had said earlier that a strike would be "totally against the interests of the coalfield and the people who work in it".

Mr Alexei Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, today celebrated his 76th birthday by making his first public appearance for four months when he addressed an election rally in Moscow. In mid October he had been ill.

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study the Soviet response to it.

Discussing his talks in Western Europe, Mr Vance said all the countries were agreed on the serious threat represented by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The discussions were held in what kind of steps should be taken to meet the threat.

On this he admitted that there were "differences of opinion" as far as specific actions were concerned and how they should be implemented.

On the Moscow games, Mr Vance did not commit himself beyond noting that neither France nor West Germany had yet reached a final conclusion.

Last night, Mr Vance was the guest of Lord Carrington at a working dinner, at which

the Western policy on Afghanistan and the Olympic Games



Photograph by David Jones  
Lord Carrington (left) meeting Mr Cyrus Vance at the Foreign Office yesterday.

## Mr Vance plays down Western differences on Moscow games

By David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, played down in London last night differences among the Western allies in their response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Asked in particular about the French attitude, he said the French government had not yet arrived at any final position regarding the Moscow Olympic Games.

Mr Vance, who was speaking after an hour and half of talks with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said he was in agreement with the concept put forward in the British plan for making Afghanistan neutral.

"I believe it is a sound and important suggestion".

Mr Vance said: "He had not had a chance so far, he added, to

study the Soviet response to it.

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There is a clear distinction between the association of sport and politics on the one hand and actually using sport as a political weapon", his letter said.

Leading article, page 15

## Mr Kosygin reappears for election rally

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Feb 21

Mr Alexei Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, today celebrated his 76th birthday by making his first public appearance for four months when he addressed an election rally in Moscow. In mid October he had been ill.

All of this could be good material for Opposition scorn in the no-confidence motion debate, now set for next Thursday, and in which both Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr James Callaghan will be speaking.

In fact ministers purport to be realising the sudden good turn of events, and plan to turn the tables.

They cite as successes, in addition to the BL vote, the ability of the police to keep open the Sheerness steelworks and the South Wales miners' vote against going on strike against the Government.

It is said, however, that Sir Keith himself is not so rigid a man, and is well aware that the situation is not static, but evolving all the time.

All of this could be good material for Opposition scorn in the no-confidence motion debate, now set for next Thursday, and in which both Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr James Callaghan will be speaking.

No word was said about his long absence, but he was publicly wished good health and success and greeted with warm applause.

Turning to Soviet foreign policy, Mr Kosygin said the world was living through a tense moment in international relations, which he attributed to the "threatening actions and dangerous trends" in the policy of the West.

Referring especially to the West's cool response to Mr Brezhnev's offer in October to withdraw troops from East Germany—which Soviet analysts said privately humiliated and infuriated the Politburo and was a key factor in determining the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan—Mr Kosygin said the West's military build-up and the American postponement of the SALT Treaty stemmed from a "definite political line intended to undermine detente".

He said the Soviet Union would draw the necessary conclusions and would devote "unflagging attention to questions of the country's defence capacity". And he gave a warning that the Russians would not allow the balance of forces in the world to be changed to their disadvantage.

He attacked American policy as high-handed, hegemonic and selfish, but said the Russians were still committed to detente and would pursue a policy of peace and friendship.

Mr Kosygin's long experience is particularly needed as the economy enters a critical phase of low growth and falling productivity, but his previous prodigious appetite for work may

be considerably curbed in future for health reasons.

He told his audience that Soviet production potential had grown a lot during the five-year plan, which ends in December. But there were many key problems still to be overcome.

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The citation says his reports were in the highest tradition of international journalism. The judges add: "His ability to convey the flavour of life in the country he is covering, allied with a deep insight into political and economic problems, presents the reader with an illuminating picture which is rarely equalled".

The award is based on his work from November 13, when *The Times* resumed publication after almost 12 months' stoppage, until the end of the year. Since then he has been sending reports from Afghanistan. He is one of the few Western journalists who escaped expulsion.

He is now returning to Beirut to resume coverage of Middle East affairs, which he began in 1976. Before that he was in Belfast at the height of the IRA troubles and was named Reporter of the Year in 1975 for his graphic reporting.

Mr Fisk is 33 and joined *The Times* nine years ago yesterday. Other awards, page 5

Leader page, 15  
Letters: On unions and the law, from Mr John Melville Wilson QC; on reparation from Mr E. H. M. Harris and others  
Leading article: Rhodesia; Television and the Olympics

Features pages 8, 14  
Geoffrey Smith looks at the American election scene and a new Republican possible; Roger Bough on great people who have changed life

Art, page 9  
David Robinson, reviewing the week's new finds in Alain Tanner's *Messidor* a chilling fable of exploration

Sport, pages 12, 13  
Cricket: Breslary willing to lead England this summer; Rugby Union: Wales pick

Swart Lane for match against Scotland

Lieutenant-General Sir Ernest Dowse, Mrs Alice Roosevelt Longworth

Business News, pages 17-22

Stock markets: Equities remained dull although there was some buying in oil. Gilt held on to earlier gains and the FT Index closed 0.7 down at 457.6

Letters: Motoring, 15, 18  
Obituary, 22  
Parliament, 16  
Features, 8, 14  
Sale Room, 16  
Science, 16

Snow reports, 12, 13  
Sport, 12, 13  
TV & Radio, 8, 9  
Theatres, etc, 8, 9  
25 Years Ago, 16  
Weather, 16

## Government cuts back on house building and increases rents

By Michael Heseltine  
A cut in house-building and a further increase in rents were announced yesterday by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, as part of the Government's policy to reduce public expenditure.

Housing investment for local authorities in 1980-81 will be allowed at £2.199m—a reduction of £49m in 1979 survey terms.

New Town building for rent programme: £151m. The Housing Corporation will be allocated at £2.199m—a reduction of £49m in 1979 survey terms.

Local authority building for rent programme: £151m. The Local Government Corporation writes: The Government's announcement made the prospects grim for anyone wanting a council home. Joan or improvement grant. Mr Ian McCallum, chairman of the Association of District Councils, said last night.

"Unless the Government can quickly reallocate resources for the new repairs and improvement grant provision in the current Housing Bill, there is a real danger of a substantial number of the nation's older houses declining to the point of no return."

## Rhodesia drops Todd guerrilla-aid charges

From Nicholas Ashford

Salisbury, Feb 21  
Charges against Mr Garfield Todd, the former Rhodesian Prime Minister, of allegedly assisting guerrillas and failing to report their presence have been dropped, it was announced today.

In a statement, Mr B. J. Tracy, the Attorney-General, said he had decided against criminal proceedings after receiving from Mr Todd an explanation about his actions before his arrest.

The lifting of charges against Mr Todd brings to an end one of the more bizarre incidents during the British administration of Rhodesia.

He was arrested almost two weeks ago after raising with the police in Shabani, where he lives, a matter involving the arrest of the headmaster of a school of which Mr Todd was a graduate.

The police opposed bail and it was only as a result of intervention by Lord Soames, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, that Mr Todd was eventually released from Shabani prison, where he was held for several hours and granted bail.

In another curious incident involving the police in Shabani, Mr J. N. Nyoka, spokesman for Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) election director, accused Lord Soames today of

## HOME NEWS

## BL expected to tell unions today that it may be forced to impose rejected pay deal

From Clifford Webb

**S**ir Michael Edwards, BL chairman, insists it is crucial to the company's survival.

Industrial observers believe that the company must begin to meet again until next Friday.

Faced by management's determined stand, they will probably follow the recent practice and call a meeting of all senior shop stewards. Such a further delay will take them well into March, and BL will be close to its deadline for managing the car strike.

Cars must be in production before the long summer closure so that sufficient numbers will be available to supply the motorising press with early test models and the trade with several thousand before the launching date.

Assembling any new car always produces innumerable difficulties. Combining a new car with existing production facilities is the motor industry's eternal nightmare.

Add to that the fact that the Metro bodybuilding line contains more robots and other automated machinery than any other car plant in Britain and it appears by BL management may now be forced to take its biggest gamble.

On Friday, the unions on the BL joint negotiations committee gave the company a fortnight to improve its offer of a 5 per cent basic pay increase, with 10 per cent for skilled workers and an incentive scheme offering up to £15 a week more.

In return the company is demanding an end to demarcation boundaries and restrictive practices, full mobility of labour and access at all times for industrial engineers, or time and motion study experts.

But, unusually after such long negotiations, the union did not couple the fortnight's grace with a strike ultimatum. Indeed, it is clear from statements made by union negotiators that they are well aware of a lack of widespread support on the shop floor for a strike.

Without their traditional answer to management's insistence the unions have had to fall back on delaying tactics aimed at forcing the company to take the initiative. In that way they hope their members will be prodded into direct action which the unions can

claim was forced upon them while they were still at the negotiating table.

It is being suggested that Wednesday's overwhelming rejection of Mr Derek Robinson, the dismissed convenor, has strengthened Sir Michael Edwards's determination to impose the pay deal. Indeed, union speakers at the mass meeting which rejected strike action gave a warning that that would happen.

After the meeting they quoted extracts from Sir Michael's speech to Birmingham industrialists as further evidence that the company was planning to impose the deal.

He said: "The BL board and management has not bluffed and will not bluff. We will tell the truth at every point.

"If I have one plea to make to the unions it is that they should believe the scale, the complexity and the nature of BL's problems and that they should never say 'I thought they were bluffing'."

Sir Michael said the pay talks had dragged on far too long. BL did not have the money to increase its offer, and various changes in working practices to be put in place somewhere near its European competitors it could not afford to stay in business.

But the part of his speech that was worrying union leaders last night was even more to the point: "It is management's duty to take the lead in this area. Doing it the other way has not worked."

ISTC officials last night refused to confirm or deny that the rise demanded for their draft agreement is 20 per cent, payable in stages rather than across the board from January 1.

A demand of that sort would be rejected out of hand by British Steel. It insists that it cannot pay more than the 14.4 per cent tied to job losses, changed working practices and modification of the industry's guaranteed working week, recommended by negotiators for about 50,000 craft and general workers but rejected by the rank and file.

Today's talks are the first serious attempt to restart negotiations since the chaotic failure of the meeting two weeks ago, when union leaders accused the corporation of misleading them over the value of their "final" pay offer of 14.4 per cent.

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Mr Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, yesterday left the Commons with the clear impression that whatever the results of the various inquiries into providing extra airport capacity, the Government would not be moved from its decision to develop Stansted as the only means of handling the millions more passengers expected to be travelling through Britain by the 1990s.

The latest forecast is that by 1990 passengers using the London area airports will have increased from 40 million to between 69 million and 81 million.

Mr Nott told the House, when he opened the debate on the Government's airport policy, that if demand was to be limited, quite apart from the congestion, chaos and delay that would build up at existing airports, yet another impediment would be placed in the path of the country's economic recovery.

Having accepted that expansion must take place in the London area, Mr Nott added that while acknowledging the controversial nature of the decision to develop Stansted, the Government saw no reason for deviating from that policy.

Although assuring the House that no decision would be reached until the recommendations of the inspector at the public inquiry were announced, Mr Nott said Stansted had really chosen itself.

However hard he had fought in his own mind against building around the existing runway so as to avoid changing this attractive part of rural Essex, there seemed no other realistic option.

While agreeing that a prime objective would be to shift as much as possible the burden of the increased air traffic away from the London area, he pointed out that to accommodate all further growth in the regions would mean building the equivalent of two Birmingham airports every year.

Ruling out the option of a second runway at Gatwick, Mr Nott said that would involve destroying the smaller villages and other smaller settlements and take about 2,000 acres of agricultural land. The cost of construction would be high, environmental losses serious, and it would not provide a flexible solution if demand continued to grow.

The BBC responded that the inquiry was "a proper area of public and journalistic concern". There was no suggestion that most Metropolitan police officers "are anything but conscientious and honest".

Parliamentary report, page 10

## Full debate demanded on immigration rules

By Our Political Correspondent

Labour and Liberal MPs are pressing the Government to allow a full day's debate in the Commons on the revised immigration rules, published on Wednesday. They say that the usual hour and a half allowed on a motion to negative orders containing such regulations is insufficient.

In the Commons yesterday Mr Norman St John-Stephens, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House, rejected the pleas of Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, and Mr David Steel, the Liberal Leader, on the argument that the House had already spent a full day debating the draft regulations.

When MPs shouted: "These rules are different", Mr St John-Stephens replied: "Indeed

## Development at Stansted essential, Mr Nott says

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent  
Westminster

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Parliamentary report, page 10

## Labour pledge to take back oil assets sold by Tories

By Our Political Staff

Mr James Callaghan, leader of the Opposition, pledged last night that a future Labour government would bring back under public control any British National Oil Corporation assets sold to the private sector.

If the present Government went ahead with its plan, then the next Labour government would make sure the nation did not suffer, he said in a message to a Fabian Society conference on energy to be held in London this weekend.

"We shall bring back these precious assets into the

national treasury", he said.

Mr Callaghan said that if the Government sold 35 to 30 per cent of the corporation it would raise a once-and-for-all sum of £500m to £600m. But it would be giving away revenues from now until the oil runs dry.

The Government would put at risk the flow of profits to the nation over the next 20 or 25 years. The nation would lose heavily, he said.

"I warn the Government and those who think they may benefit from this adventure that the Labour Party will oppose it all the way.

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Parliamentary report, page 10

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## Manifesto stand criticized

By Our Political Staff

The insistence of Labour's National Executive committee on taking over responsibility for drafting the party manifesto was criticized last night by Mr Neville Sanderson, Labour MP, for Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington.

Mr Sanderson, addressing the Brunel University Labour Club, said the party's programme must be acceptable to all sections of the party and agreed by all. If it was not, many Labour MPs would react accordingly.

The NEC must wake up to the fact that their plan is simply not on, and if they try to persist in this authoritarian line they must be prepared for rebellion within the party and disastrous consequences at the polls.

Taking part in a series of Lent Lectures at St Botolph's Church, Aldgate, London, entitled "Christian perspectives on Thatcherism", Mr Heffer said that Christianity was often referred to in conservative speeches as if it were the sole preserve of the Tories.

in hospital with injuries, including multiple bruising and a burn caused by an electric iron. When she was discharged, she was non-accidental so when she was discharged, she and her parents were visited at their home in Glassel Road, Easterhouse, Glasgow, four times in three weeks. Five days after the last visit she was dead.

Robert Granger, aged 19, the girl's stepfather, is charged with her murder.

The court was also told of another period the girl spent

## Steel unions to offer 'compromise' package

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Union leaders of 100,000 striking steel workers will put the mass aversion by steelworkers and miners.

One weary picket described the show of strength by about 1,300 on Wednesday as a total disaster: a cloud of orange smoke hung over the steel plant, which continued to churn out 1,000 tonnes a day.

Employees with a dump truck cleared the sandbag bags, which were littered with what was to be seen of Wednesday's siege.

Plans to try to close the plant by other means were, however, already afoot.

Mr Brian Connolly, strike coordinator for the South-east, refused to comment on suggestions by pickets on Wednesday. It was alleged that four officers had arrested one picket in a "most unreasonable way" and given him a kicking and beating.

Eight of the 21 arrested on Wednesday were miners, and seven of those arrested have been fined sums varying from £25 to £75. The rest have been bailed on condition that they do not return to the island. Most of the charges are of obstruction.

## Sheerness pickets go home early but other plans are afoot

From Nicholas Timmins

Sheerness

It was the day of the dustcart and some disillusion on the picket line in Sheerness yesterday as a lonely group of twenty pickets from Rotherham were all that was left of Wednesday's mass aversion by steelworkers and miners.

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A message prepared by the Press and Publications Department, Ministry of Information, State of Qatar on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the accession of HH the Emir, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani

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# The Creation of Modern Qatar

## Wise leadership makes provision for a secure future

Today Qatar celebrates the eighth anniversary of the accession of Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani as Emir. The nation looks back with justifiable pride at the remarkable progress that has been achieved during this period and with admiration at the way in which Sheikh Khalifa has identified and tackled the many problems inherent in such rapid and comprehensive development.

On the 22 February 1972, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani acceded to the Emirship of Qatar, the small oil state in the heart of the Arabian Gulf. His accession came as no surprise, since in fact Sheikh Khalifa had been running the affairs of state for more than a decade as Crown Prince and Chief Executive. But when the concensus of opinion of leaders of the community gave their support to the new Emir, they were in fact endorsing a programme of development and modernization which has proved one of the most interesting models of transition in the oil rich Gulf.

As a young boy Sheikh Khalifa had witnessed the decline of a traditional way of life. Qatar had long been famous for its pearl diving industry—the only major source of income in an inhospitable desert land. But the world economic crisis of the thirties coupled with Japanese ingenuity in developing the cultured pearl saw a thriving industry wither and die almost overnight. It was a classic example of the danger of depending on one source of income. The lesson was not lost on the young Sheikh in later years.

Thus it was that a young man from a powerful branch of the ruling family of Qatar from an early age began to dream of the potential future of the country, especially as the oil began to flow in 1949.

Even under the unfavourable terms granted by the oil companies in the early days of Qatar's oil industry, the discovery of massive quantities of this raw energy source was a blessing to a nation searching for a future. But oil brought problems in its wake. For a small country with a small population, which for over a century had been ignored by the great powers who only wanted to protect their trading fleets, the sudden influx of foreigners and twentieth century technology threatened the very existence and identity of the local people.

The question was, could the people of Qatar respond to the challenge of a new age, or would they remain spectators on the sidelines as powerful external forces plundered their natural wealth. To face the challenge the Qatari nation in some way had to condense a process of development which had taken European countries two centuries of industrial and technological revolution into a matter of decades. A daunting and seemingly hopeless task.

This is the task which Sheikh Khalifa took upon himself, and it is a mark of his success as politician and statesman that his country has progressed a long way down the road of that development. But of course, no one man can develop a nation on his own. Development requires that the people as a whole believe in their future and make their full contribution—a point that Sheikh Khalifa made when he addressed the nation on assuming the position of Emir:

"This country's renaissance in all fields has been the product of co-operation between the State and the people, who have always sought to build their country on sound bases, free their energies of all restrictions and take their well-deserved place among other nations and peoples."

All the people of Qatar required in order to march towards the future was a leader, and this they found in Sheikh Khalifa, as an unassuming ruler, and a tireless worker determined to see his dream of a developed state become reality.

The practical application began in 1956, when the ruler-to-be took on the post of the first ever Minister of Education in Qatar—indeed the first ever minister. Even at an early age he appreciated that education is the key to the future. If Qatar was to regain its independence and control its own resources and hence



Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar

its future, it must develop trained manpower able to deal with every aspect of the State and its economy. As Minister of Education, Sheikh Khalifa introduced free schooling into Qatar for the first time—there was no formal education previously.

In order to protect the identity of Qatar against the encroachments



Qatar's new radio station will provide improved facilities for the existing comprehensive services in Arabic and English

of westernism, Sheikh Khalifa was keen to employ Arab teachers, Egyptians, Palestinians, Bahrainis—people who would understand the religious and cultural heritage of Qatar and offer education without destroying the basis of society. It was a policy which as Emir, Sheikh Khalifa has continued to adopt in every aspect of the State as far as possible.

It was also through the educational system that Sheikh Khalifa tried with some success to convince young Qataris that they had a responsibility to their country and its future—that it was more important to study technical and economic subjects than literary matters, if Qatar was to develop. But at the same time religious studies formed an important part of the curriculum. The Islamic faith was the immunization against the decadence which by the sixties was afflicting western industrial societies:

"I am not afraid of the impact of industrialization on our own Arab society provided we are not careless about our deep-rooted customs and traditions... we have a rare opportunity to bypass mistakes committed by other societies. Our Islamic way of life allows for a contemporary way of living which is not incongruent with our spirit and traditional ways. The door is open for thinking up new answers for new problems while keeping the old spirit."

The problems which required answers were—how to make sure that Qatar and its people benefited

from its natural inheritance of oil wealth, rather than foreign oil companies, and, secondly, how to make sure that Qatar's future would be assured after the oil stopped flowing.

HH The Emir has never had any doubts especially on the second question. He has firmly stated on many occasions that the key to a stable society lies in its economy. Remembering Qatar's experiences of the past he was determined that Qatar should exploit its natural heritage to diversify its income as much as possible and never again, as in the pearl days, be at the mercy of the market for one commodity alone.

Industrialization was the key. Qatar with its oil and even more extensive reserves of natural gas had the energy sources to create heavy and light industry—but

oil companies, Qatar was also an observer at the first ever meeting of OPEC in 1960, and a full member at the second meeting. Since that time Qatar has been at the forefront of efforts by the oil producing countries to ensure full control of their production and revenue, participating in every major decision taken by the oil producing countries.

The declaration of independence announced by Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani on 2 September 1971, six months before he assumed the Emirship, was a major step on the road to Qatar gaining control of its own affairs, but it was still to take another five years before the state finally gained full control of its oil resources with one hundred per cent nationalization. With the establishment of the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation in 1977 Qatar finally acquired the right to determine its future and to spend its



Qatar Iron and Steel Company (QASCO) is the third of its kind in the Middle East and produces 400,000 tons per year

own wealth in the most appropriate way.

That way has been and continues to be to develop the people and the economy. The development of the people is achieved by an extensive education and medical care programme.

Educationally, since the Emir as Minister of Education in the late fifties established an overall educational programme, Qatar now has over 38,000 people in full time education from primary schooling to university level. Education is free and financial help is available for poor families to ensure that children are not deprived of education because of their parents' economic status.

At the upper level the university of Qatar continues to expand with



Health care is a priority in Qatar and the new 600-bed Hamad General Hospital is soon to open

a further 600 students being accepted this year for degree and teacher training courses. More students are taking places in technical training courses and other aspects of education directly related to Qatar's development programme. The illiteracy programme has exceeded all expectation, particularly where women are concerned and there are real hopes of eradicating illiteracy in the coming few years even among senior citizens.

If education is one prerequisite for development, then health is the other. Healthy individuals can build a strong society. This belief has led the government of Qatar to become one of the foremost states in the world in offering free health care not only to its native citizens but also to anyone residing or working in the country. The latest project in this field in Qatar is the Hamad General Hospital, a 660 bed hospital with medical and surgical facilities equipped to the latest technological standards due to open in the near future.

Less spectacular but just as important is the mass immunization programme carried out amongst the entire child population last year against polio and other endemic diseases, and the country wide programme for preventive medicine which is now under way.

The fact that such matters as health and education have been taken very seriously from the beginning as elements of development are important indicators of how seriously the problems of development are taken in Qatar. Even though according to international statistics Qatar is, on a per capita basis, one of the richest states in the world, the government of Qatar and the Emir have no illusions that the road of development is hard, and it is wise to proceed with caution. Development on a physical level without development of the society is a recipe for national disaster and one which the people of Qatar guided by HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani, have been careful to avoid.

Still Qatar was in a race against time. As early as 1960 oil industry pessimists were warning that Qatar's oil reserves would be depleted by the 1980s or sooner. Though the predictions soon proved to be wrong, nevertheless the message was correct and understood.

In the sixties the first difficult steps in industrialization were taken with the installation of a petrol refinery, a cement plant and a fertilizer factory. But all were on a small scale.

The OPEC decision in 1973 to triple the price of crude oil and the Qatar government's steps to complete nationalization of the oil industry were the two crucial steps which allowed Sheikh Khalifa's dream for the country to unfold.

The new higher revenues meant that existing projects could be upgraded and work began on new immense projects aimed at the export market. One such project which is already proving a major success is the Qatar Steel Company (QASCO) built at a cost of more than 1,000 million riyals. This year



Qatar's earth satellite station ensures efficient telecommunications and the facility to receive and transmit international colour television programmes

QASCO has exceeded its production targets and its high quality steel and prompt delivery dates have attracted many overseas customers.

Perhaps the most interesting project in the rapidly expanding Umm Said industrial zone south of Doha is the petrochemical plant expected to go on stream in a few months' time.

In April 1975 the Qatar government signed a co-operation agreement with French corporation, Copenor, for the construction and operation of two petrochemical plants, one in Dunkirk, France, the other in Umm Said, Qatar. Qatar was to own 80 per cent of its own plant and 40 per cent of the Dunkirk project.

Under this unique cross-investment plan, Qatar gains French technical and management expertise—Qatari staff are being trained currently in Dunkirk. The French plant, already in operation, gives a chance for early market assessment. And because the State of Qatar has a vested financial interest in the Dunkirk plant, technical co-operation will continue on a long term basis, unlike the usual technical advisory contracts.

That such a project should have been initiated is just one more example of the care with which the government of Qatar under the able leadership of HH The Emir Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani is using the benefits of today to build the Qatar of tomorrow. When the oil runs out, as one day it must, Qatar will be well equipped with an industry based on natural gas of which there are reserves enough for hundreds of years.

Economic stability and security is, HH The Emir rightly believes, the key to the strength and security of the nation in all its aspects. Hence in this crucial period, much of Qatar's energy and effort is devoted to building a strong confident nation. But HH The Emir has always been keen to maintain strong external relations.

HH Sheikh Khalifa, one of the Gulf's most respected and admired leaders, has always sought closer co-operation between Gulf countries.

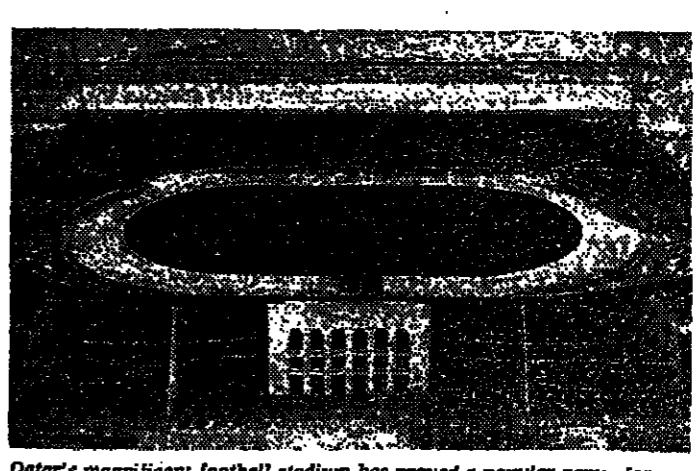
On the Arab front, Qatar is more and more playing a full part in all aspects of Arab co-operation on political, social and economic levels. Qatar is proud to be part of the Arab world with its rich heritage, and is most careful despite the pressures of industrialization to maintain most firmly its Arab character and its link with its Arab brothers.

The social and moral force which unites the society is the Islamic faith, a religion of tolerance and ability to adapt to new situations and demands, while providing the believer with a protection against modern decadence.

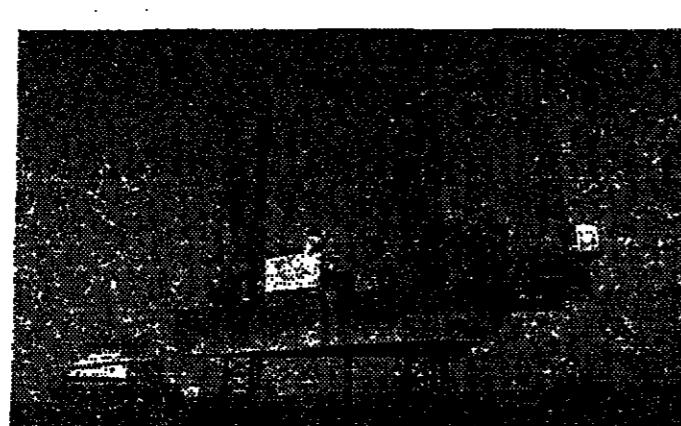
In the international arena, Qatar as a developing country is only too aware of the problems of other states seeking to secure their future, especially those not blessed with the gift of oil or other such raw materials. Through OPEC and other international agencies Qatar has made its voice heard in the call for a more just economic order in the world, and has contributed extensively to international aid programmes.

But where foreign policy is concerned, and especially with regard to relations with the West, there is one issue which overrides all others. The State of Qatar firmly supports the call of the Palestinian people for the return of their homeland and their legitimate rights.

In years to come, the people of Qatar will accept as normal their industrial society, perhaps forgetting the pain and toil which has been expended to make the future a shining certainty. What has been achieved, and any traveller to Qatar can see for himself, is the result of the confidence of the people in one man's dream.



Qatar's magnificent football stadium has proved a popular venue for both local and international events



The oil drilling platform 'Dana' owned by the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation



Self sufficiency is the aim of Qatar's agricultural policy



## HOME NEWS

## Metal fatigue found in crashed Buccaneer and cracks in 20 more

By Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent  
Signs of metal fatigue have been discovered in the RAF Buccaneer aircraft which crashed in the Nevada desert two weeks ago. The RAF stated last night: "Minor cracks have also been found in 20 of the other Buccaneers inspected so far as a result of the accident, in which both crewmen were killed."

The fault in the crashed aircraft was in the mainplane front spar, which supports the wings, and other cracks have been found in the same part or in the wing itself.

The RAF does not yet know whether metal fatigue caused the crash. No conclusive evidence is likely at least until all the wreckage has been flown back to base for detailed inspection. Bad weather has prevented helicopters from reaching the accident site in the desert.

RAF spokesman emphasized that the cracks in the 20 other Buccaneers were all minor. Most could be repaired in less than a day and the entire programme should be completed within a fortnight.

The ban on operational training flights will remain until a board of investigation in the United States has satisfied itself that there were no other structural

defects in the aircraft.

The eight Buccaneers still in the United States after the annual Red Flag bombing exercises will be allowed to fly back to Britain, however, and all the aircraft will remain on operational stand-by in case of emergency.

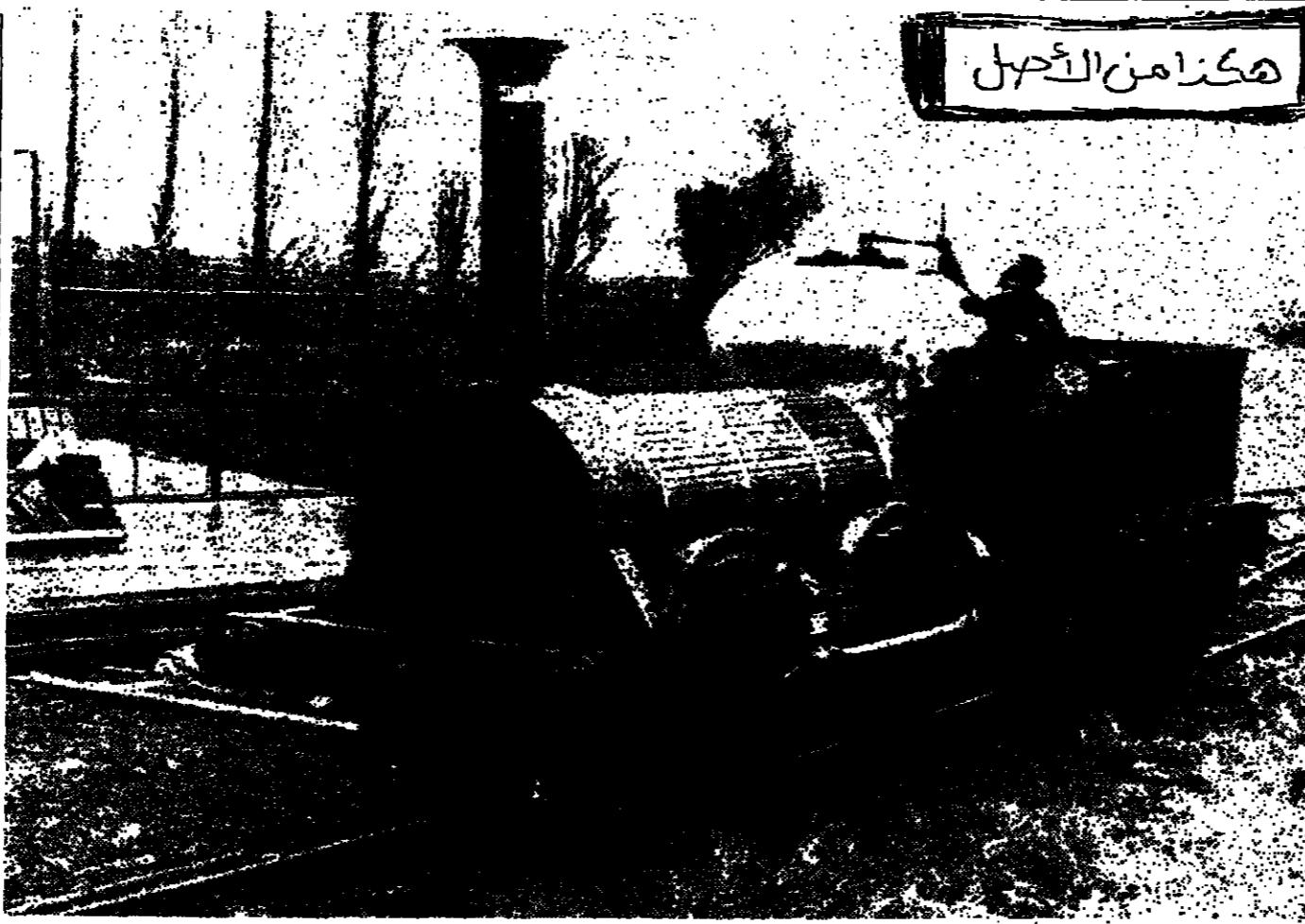
The Buccaneer first flew in 1958 and the first operational squadron entered service with the Royal Navy in 1962. The RAF ordered 43 in the early 1970s. All of them have been delivered and it has taken over the Royal Navy's aircraft since the demise of angled-deck aircraft carriers.

The Buccaneer was designed as a low-level strike aircraft with a maximum speed at 20,000ft of about 645 mph, just below the speed of sound.

Three RAF squadrons are based at Honington, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, and two squadrons at Laabruach, West Germany, where the crashed aircraft came from.

The RAF would not disclose last night whether the cracks had been found in the older, former Navy aircraft or in more recent models. Metal fatigue in the younger Buccaneers would obviously provoke more public concern.

A squadron is also in service with the South African Air Force.



The locomotive Lion, built 142 years ago, travelling on the private line of Ruston Diesels, Newton-le-Willows, yesterday after completion of restoration work by staff there.

## Lower tar may not cut smoking risk

By Our Medical Correspondent

Smokers who switch to lower tar cigarettes may lower their risk of lung cancer, but not of other lung diseases, a report in *The Lancet* states. Indeed, smokers who increase their consumption of milder cigarettes may aggravate the risk of progressive shortness of breath.

The warnings are based on a survey of 18,000 London civil servants whose health is being monitored by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Two forms of lung disease were found to be common in those who smoked: a cough which produced phlegm, and shortness of breath associated with wheezing.

Those who smoked high tar cigarettes had more cough than smokers of low tar cigarettes. However, the severity of their shortness of breath was linked with the number of cigarettes smoked and not with their tar content.

The report says that the findings suggest that some of the lung diseases caused by cigarette smoking may be due to as yet unidentified irritants in the smoke. More information is needed about both the nature and concentrations of the irritants and their relation to the tar content of cigarettes.

## Animal rights man gatecrashed dinner

Roger Barfoot, a campaigner for animal rights, who was said to have posed as a doctor to get into a fur traders' charity dinner at the Savoy Hotel, London, on Wednesday night, appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, yesterday.

Mr Barfoot, aged 38, chairman of the animal rights organization, Conquest, agreed to be bound over to keep the peace for 12 months in the sum of

## Kampuchea reports gain top journalism award

By Our Medical Correspondent

Stephen Latter, of the *Buckinghamshire Advertiser*, for his reports on the suffering of motorway in the area. Commanded are Aileen Ballantyne, *The Guardian*, Robert Schofield, *Yorkshire Post*, and Susan Spindler, *Wokingham Times*.

Other winners are: Specialist Writer of the Year: Angus Macpherson, defence correspondent of the *Daily Mail*. Commanded: Christine Doyle, *The Observer*. Sports Journalist of the Year: John Arlott, *The Guardian*. Commanded: Patrick Collins, *Evening News*, London; Julie Welch, *The Observer*.

Columnist of the Year: Sam White, of *Evening Standard*, London. Commanded: Paul Foot, *Daily Mirror*; Barry White, *Belfast Telegraph*.

Critic of the Year: Anthony Burgess, *The Observer*. Commanded: Peter Heyworth, *The Observer*.

Photographer of the Year: Graham Wood, *Daily Mail*. Commanded: John Dawes, *Daily Star*; Michael Maloney, *Daily Mirror*.

News Photographer of the Year: Kent Gavin, *Daily Mirror*, for his Mountbatten funeral pictures. Commanded: Colin Davey, *Evening Standard*, London.

A special award was made to David Leigh, of *The Guardian*, for his investigative reports on official 'secrecy'.

## Americans drop objection to young British actors

By Martin Huckerby  
Theatre Reporter

To the surprise and delight of the National Youth Theatre, American Equity has reversed its decision to ban the young actors from performing for a season at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, in New York.

Mr Michael Croft, director of the youth theatre, said he received a cable from the company yesterday informing him that the American actors' union had withdrawn its objection to the company's visa. He understood from Brooklyn that the union's change of heart was caused by comments in the press and appeals from various dignitaries. He said it was "a remarkable change" and the company was most grateful.

## Picket case report 'not unfair'

A newspaper's court report about a picket line incident involving one of its former employees was not unfair or misleading, although some phrases in it could have been more accurate, the Press Council ruled yesterday.

The council rejected a complaint by Mr Peter Anderson, of Clifton Lane, Wilford, Nottinghamshire, of unfair and unbalanced reporting of the case by the *Evening Post*, Nottingham, and of failure to correct a serious factual error.

The newspaper reported that magistrates found Mr Anderson, a former *Evening Post* reporter, not guilty of using threatening words and behaviour when picketing outside the newspaper office. The report said the constable who arrested him said he saw him struggling with a man and that later Mr Anderson said people such as the constable were ruining the country.

Mr Anderson was said to have told the court a man approached him but he said nothing to the man and stood between the two of them. The man grabbed

## Libel damages for Lord Burghersh

Lord Burghersh, aged 28, accepted an apology and an undisclosed sum in damages in settlement of a High Court libel action yesterday over an allegation in the *Daily Express* that he was refused admission to a Monte Carlo club.

He sued Express Newspapers, complaining of an item in the Hickey column of the *Daily Express* in May, 1978.

Mr Richard Rampton, his counsel, told Mr Justice Chapman that the *Daily Express* article stated that Lord Burghersh, of the Fulham Road, London, after being refused admission to the Monte Carlo club, "wheeled his way back in."

In fact, counsel added, it appeared that the case was one of mistaken identity.

At the council's request Mr Snaith provided photocopies of the reporter's notes. An independent shorthand expert confirmed Mr Cox's transcript with very minor variations.

The Press Council's adjudication was:

"Although, probably in pursuit of brevity, some phrases were used which could have been more accurate, the Press Council does not think the article was unfair or misleading. It gave substantial prominence to the case, having been dismissed. The reporter against the *Evening Post*, Nottingham, is rejected.

him and he asked the policemen whether they would arrest the man. A senior officer had Mr Anderson arrested. According to the report, Mr Anderson denied saying that people such as the constable were ruining the country.

Mr Anderson asked the editor for a full correction.

The story gave a full version of the prosecution case and only a brief summary of the defence, missing several crucial points, he said. It had him saying nothing to his assailant whereas he had told the court what he did say. He had also given his version of his conversation with the constable.

Mr William Snaith, the editor, replied that the report made clear the case failed. It was unnecessary to give all the evidence to achieve balance.

The prosecution case took 34 lines, the defence 54.

Mr Anderson complained in the Press Council that the quoted remark that he had not spoken to his assailant was made up. Although the report said he denied the constable's version of the conversation, it

## Russian replaced as RPO conductor

By Our Music Reporter

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has replaced Yuri Temirkanov, the Russian, as conductor for two concerts next month. It has been unable to find out from the Russian agency, Gosconcert, whether he would fulfil the engagement.

Mr Temirkanov was appointed the orchestra's principal guest conductor last September. The orchestra had hoped his engagements would not be affected by the restrictions imposed by the Russian Government on its artists' appearances in the West.

The soloist for the March 4 concert was scheduled to be Elise Wirsaladze, the Russian pianist, but the RPO was similarly unable to get confirmation of her appearance. It has arranged for Alicia de Larrocha, the Spanish pianist, to appear in her place.

Most of the London orchestras are in difficulties over the scheduled appearances by Russian artists because of the apparent capriciousness of the Soviet Government.

Dmitri Alexeiev, the pianist, was unable to appear with the RPO at a concert on January 31, but Gidon Kremer, the violinist, is in London, and will be playing with the orchestra on February 28.

Meanwhile the Philharmonia Orchestra has received confirmation of the visit early in March by Emil Gilels, the pianist, and is hopeful that that will not be disrupted.

## Dairy men protest at butter subsidy

By Hugh Clayton

The National Council of Social Service is concerned that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not responded to its proposals on tax reforms to help dairy farmers.

Mr Nicholas Hinton, director of the council, said yesterday that a letter had been sent to Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, on December 20 requesting a meeting to discuss proposals made by its fiscal working party. A further letter was sent at the beginning of this month.

We are dismayed that the Chancellor has not seen fit to discuss the proposals with us," said Mr Hinton.

There was particular concern about the Chancellor's lack of response as tax changes he had introduced had affected voluntary organizations very severely.

The increase in VAT had added an estimated £4m to their running costs and the reduction in the standard rate of income tax from 33 to 30 per cent had lost them £3m in recoverable tax, Mr Hinton said.

The proposals put to the Chancellor in December included a reduction in the minimum grant for eligible deeds of covenant from seven to four years; the introduction of some form of allowance against taxable income in respect of single donations by individuals to charities, and that the net amount received by a charity under a deed of covenant should be deemed to have been taxed at an average rate of 45 per cent.

Sir Geoffrey said in reply to a parliamentary question on February 8 that the recommendations in the working party's report were receiving serious consideration.

## Mr Albert Speer

In our report headed "Jail for two of gang who robbed homo" in December, it was reported to Mr Speer as one of the gang's victims and stated that property worth £7,325 was stolen from him at the President Hotel. Mr Speer has asked us to make it clear that although a victim of the gang he is not and never has been a homosexual.

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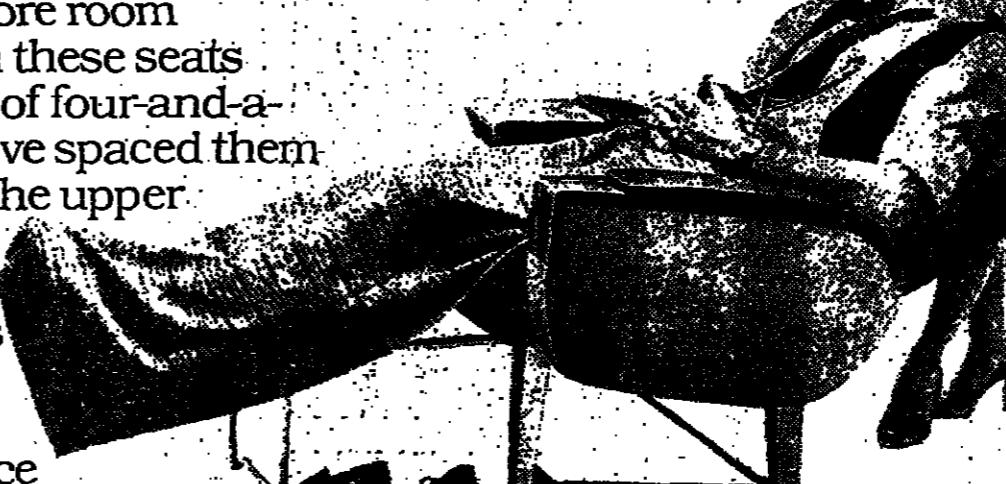
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## WEST EUROPE

### Dutch Government survives worst crisis

From Robert Schul  
Amsterdam, Feb 21  
The Dutch Government, led by Mr Andries van Agt, tonight survived the worst political crisis of its two years in power. The resignation yesterday of Mr Frans Andriessen, the Finance Minister, will not be followed by the resignation of other members of the Cabinet.

In a statement to the Lower House of Parliament, Mr van Agt said that the Cabinet had tried to convince Mr Andriessen to change his mind, but the minister has persevered in his decision to step down.

The Cabinet, a centre-right coalition of Christian Democrats and conservative Liberals, must now seek a new finance minister. Mr Andriessen is a Christian Democrat and one of the other Christian Democratic ministers already in the Cabinet would be the preferred choice. But none of them has shown much enthusiasm for taking over the post.

Mr Andriessen resigned after the Cabinet failed to reach agreement on the amount by which public spending should be cut. Most ministers accepted compromise proposals made by the Prime Minister but Mr Andriessen felt himself unable to stay in office unless more drastic cuts were made.

Queen Juliana interrupted a skiing holiday in Austria and flew home today because of the crisis. Mr van Agt met her in Zurich and briefed her on the situation during the flight to the Netherlands.

Every effort has been made by the Christian Democrats and Liberals to prevent a collapse of the coalition. Both parties would probably have suffered badly in the election which would have followed a Cabinet resignation. Recent opinion polls indicate that the Opposition—the Labour Party and even more, the left-wing Liberal Democrats—66—have been making substantial gains.

This is the second time that a minister has resigned from the van Agt Cabinet. In March, 1978, just 75 days after Mr van Agt came to power, Dr Roelof Krueger, the Defence Minister, resigned over the neutron bomb against which he held strong personal views. He was replaced by Mr Willem Scholten, who is now being named as one of the candidates to succeed Mr Andriessen.

**French petrol price rise**

Paris, Feb 21.—The price of petrol in France goes up tonight by eight centimes a litre, making super grade cost 3.35 francs a litre—roughly £1.68 a gallon—in the Paris region. Prices of domestic fuel and diesel oil prices are to rise by 11 centimes a litre.

Mr Andriessen, the EEC Commissioner for agriculture, told Mr Walker, in Brussels on Monday, that European authorities would act on Wednesday. British ministers decided after a Cabinet meeting yesterday that a statement was necessary because the Commission's enthusiasm for action had waned since January.

In January the Commission asked the British Government to estimate the cost of the ban, which means that lamb prices in Britain are depressed below the level guaranteed to farmers by the Government. The bill sent by Mr Walker to Brussels in January totalled almost £30m, and since then the cost of making up the guaranteed price to farmers has been more than £100m a week.

Mr Walker said that it was five months since the European Court of Justice had found against the French ban. The lethargy of the Commission contrasted sharply with its quick action against a pig subsidy last

year, when it imposed a ban on imports of British lamb. Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in London that he was "surprised and disappointed" that the Commission had taken no action as promised on Monday.

**Four on trial for murder and abduction in Berlin**

From Greville Spitzer  
Berlin, Feb 21

Four people accused of belonging to an extreme left-wing group went on trial in West Berlin today charged with a series of terrorist attacks in the city.

The 243-page indictment, supported by 180 pages of evidence, reads some of the worst terrorist outrages committed here in the 1970s.

Franz Gisèle Rollnik, aged 29, Frau Angelika Geder, aged 29 and Herr Klaus Viehmann, aged 25, are accused of membership of the "June 2 Movement".

They are charged in various configurations, with the murder of Günter von Drenkemann, West Berlin's senior judge, in November, 1974; the kidnapping of Dr Peter Lorenz, chairman

of the Berlin Christian Democratic Party, in February, 1975; the kidnapping in November, 1977, of Herr Walter Palmers, the Austrian industrialist who was released for a ransom equaling £1.1m; and the springing from jail of Till Meyer, an extremist, in May, 1978.

Frau Gisèle Rollnik and Frau Geder are also charged with aiding Herr Meyer's escape to Bulgaria, where they were recaptured in June, and with various bank robberies, offering forged documents and possession of weapons.

When a defence request that the four defendants be put together in one dock was turned down, the defendants began yelling abuse and were removed from the courtroom.

The trial will continue next Tuesday.

**Phone message not illegal**

From Our Correspondent  
Paris, Feb 21

Does a recorded telephone message constitute a broadcast? The lawyers and courts of Metz, the French capital, have finally decided that it does not, provided the message is played only to subscribers who are paying for their call.

This test case decision means that the French section of the French Socialist Party has been found not guilty of breaching Article 1149 of the Electoral

Code, which prohibits the distribution of electoral propaganda on election days.

The case was brought by M. Jean-Marie Rauch, Mayor of Metz, on the day after the first round of the March, 1978 elections. He had obtained evidence from a bailiff that the federation of a broadcasting service was playing an election message on voting day.

The court, yesterday, discharged M. Serge Barcellini, the federation secretary and awarded no costs against him.

**Optimism over first results of anti-cancer drug**

From Harry Delibes  
Madrid, Feb 21

The world will have to wait at least one year to learn whether the first drug to attack cancer by curing diseased cells rather than killing them is as effective as it seemed to be in initial trials.

Dr Mario Gómez, aged 39, a Spanish biochemist who has spent the past 15 years trying to find a way to conquer cancer diseases, told *The Times* at his home in Madrid: "The novelty of this drug, Norgamycin, is that it transforms cancer cells into normal cells—it modifies them by acting on the plasma membrane and the cells become almost completely normal."

Dr Gómez has been surprised by the deluge of telephone calls and correspondence from all over the world since the British medical journal *The Lancet* reported his discovery late last year. He agrees that the journal's report, of a remission of cancer in nearly half the patients treated with the new synthetic drug, was correct.

In 1976, he said, he developed an anti-cancer drug, Quimycin, while doing research under grant from the National Cancer Institute of the United States, which funded his investigations between 1974 and 1978.



Demonstrators against a planned nuclear power station in Brittany carry boards reading "Nuclear: death" and "Work for gravediggers".

### M Marchais launches communist human rights inquiry group

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Feb 21

So long if ever has M Georges Marchais, the French Communist Party's secretary-general, been as brutally provocative, as truculent, and as aggressive as at a press conference yesterday, when he proclaimed the Communists to be the most ardent defenders of human rights in the world.

He was making use of innumerable half-truths and plain lies in order to prove his point and to build up his case against the "crimes" of capitalism and imperialism.

His press conference marks the completion of a reversal of the party's critical stand on the limitations of freedom in the Soviet-bloc countries a few years back.

Symbolic of this change is the fact that Mr Leonid Plitsch, the dissident Soviet mathematician now living in France, whom M Marchais shot by the hand when he was exiled from Russia, was refused admittance to the press conference.

The French Communist Party had never ceased to condemn the crimes of Stalinism, he said. But it was absurd to compare the situation of socialist countries today and what it was in the days of Stalin. It was scandalous to compare the Soviet Union today to the Germany of Hitler.

The campaign against the Moscow Olympics was dictated by fear that "5,000 to 6,000 people might discover the realities of socialism today".

He added threateningly: "We are not short of means to make the gravediggers of the Olympics pay for their misdeeds."

It was better, he emphasized, "to be a Jew in the Soviet Union than a black in the United States."

M Marchais criticized the "partial" role of Amnesty International, and replied to a question about the banning of Dr Sakharov: "If you are for him you are for Pincher. I leave him to you in the name of the rights of man."

He warned West Germany and Japan not to "worry about their behaviour during the Second World War, they were discredited from giving lessons to others on human rights."

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## OVERSEAS

## Israeli envoys meet to counter British plan for Palestinians

By David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
Israeli ambassadors from 14 countries in Western Europe held an emergency meeting in London yesterday, to consider the latest moves by Britain and other EEC countries to associate the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) with the peace process.

The importance of the decision will be gauged by the fact that Mr Yael Chichakli, director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, flew to London to chair the meeting. Later he called on Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, and today he will have further talks with Sir Michael Palmer, the Permanent Under-Secretary.

Israel, under Mr Begin's leadership, remains totally opposed not simply to recognition of the PLO, but to any dealings with it whatever. The principal culprit, in Israeli eyes, for what is seen as an attempt to undermine this policy, is the British Government.

Lord Carrington, since his recent visit to Saudi Arabia, has made no secret of his belief that the PLO must be brought into the negotiations for a settlement, in order to follow up the Camp David accord between Egypt and Israel. This was an important step, in his view, but only "half way" towards a solution.

## Britain asked to keep out of autonomy talks

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem, Feb 21

Anglo-Israeli diplomatic relations are becoming increasingly strained by persistent reports that Britain is leading an EEC initiative to secure an amendment to Resolution 242 of the United Nations Security Council, which would recognize the right of Palestinian self-determination.

The Israelis regard the reported British moves as a severe threat to the Middle East peace process and particularly to the continuing talks on Palestinian autonomy which now appear unlikely to be completed by the target date of May 25 agreed at Camp David.

Last night Mr Yigael Yadin, the Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the Democratic Movement, added his voice to the angry attacks which have been made on Britain in the last week by Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, and the Ambassador-designate to Egypt, Mr Ben-Elissar.

Expressing Israeli "annoyance", Mr Yadin called on the British Government to give the autonomy talks a chance to succeed and to desist from efforts to secure a change in the wording of Resolution 242, which was drawn up in 1967 with Britain as the main author.

He claimed that the move would harm the complicated peace process, and he called on the British Government to leave matters to Israel, Egypt and America, the countries which, he said, had shown the courage to try and reach agreement in the first place.

Mr Yadin's speech came on the eve of the meeting of 14 ambassadors held in London today, to plan a diplomatic offensive to counter any attempts to alter the wording of Resolution 242.

One tactic the Israeli diplomats are expected to adopt is to try to convince their various host governments, including Britain, that the Palestine Liberation Organization is still a dangerous terrorist group.

## King Khalid well enough to receive visitors

Riyadh, Feb 21.—King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, who is recuperating in a Riyadh hospital from exhaustion, received a number of local dignitaries today, the Saudi press agency said.

It made no mention of his state of health, but political sources said the fact that the King was allowed to receive visitors was an encouraging sign in itself. He entered hospital on Monday.

## Tanzania puts pressure on Uganda leader

From Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, Feb 21

The Tanzanian Foreign Minister has visited Uganda with a message from President Nyerere urging President Binaisa to resolve the latest crisis in his Government by reconciling the opposing factions.

President Binaisa has been under pressure from members of his own Government since removing Mr Paulo Muwanga as interior minister, particularly after the dislodgment of the disloyal because Mr Muwanga was blamed for failing to control a serious crime wave.

Government sources in Kampala said that President Nyerere had threatened to withdraw the estimated 15,000 Tanzanian troops who have remained in Uganda since overthrowing former President Idi Amin.

The same sources said that the Tanzanian President was supporting demands from one section of the ruling party for Mr Muwanga to be returned to the Cabinet. Mr Binaisa, however, says his efforts to project an image of stability will be negated if he is forced to reinstate Mr Muwanga, who has been named as ambassador to Geneva.

In his fullest explanation of his thinking on this matter, Lord Carrington said in the House of Lords earlier this month that "a lasting peace must resolve the Palestinian problem, enabling the Palestinians to participate in the negotiation of a settlement, and in that framework to determine their political future in a language of their own."

Only a piece of that kind could meet the aspirations of the Arab people, Lord Carrington went on, and only such a peace could guarantee the long-term security of Israel. "If they believe that the world is moving towards such a peace, will the Arab countries be fully able and prepared to take account of all the implications for them and for the rest of us of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan," Lord Carrington added.

The term "representatives" in this statement is taken to be the PLO, as was made clear in a speech during the same debate by Lord Chalford (formerly Sir Tufan Bemis), who said that until it was recognized that Palestinian rights were seen as determination and until the PLO was accepted as their representative body, there was no hope of a lasting peace. This was a clear field, he added, in which a British lead in the EEC was clearly indicated.

Pakistani sources said that Soviet troops could launch "hot pursuit" operations across the border after the guerrillas had moved into Afghanistan. President Zia ul-Haq said yesterday that Pakistan would defend its independence and territorial integrity at any cost.

One source said: "We believe the Soviet troops will try to seal the Durand Line just as the United States tried to cut the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Indochina. It remains to be seen whether the Soviet Army will have any more success."

The sources said that fighting continued in Paktia and in Badakhshan Provinces.

There also appeared to be a big Soviet effort under way in north-eastern Afghanistan to retake the border town of Birkat, which has been reported under guerrilla siege for several months.

Official Pakistani sources said that refugees had crossed from Afghanistan at the rate of 1,000 a week over the past two weeks. — Reuter.

The diplomatic friction between Britain and Israel comes as the British Ambassador in Tel Aviv is about to leave. Next Monday Sir John Mason, who has been in the post since 1977, leaves to become High Commissioner in Australia, and will be replaced by Mr John Robinson, Minister at the Washington Embassy.

The gradual creation of normal ties between Israel and Egypt advanced today with the arrival of a party of 22 Egyptian officials and diplomats who will staff the first Arab embassy in Israel. Initially the Egyptians will operate from a suite of heavily guarded rooms in the Tel Aviv Hilton while they search for other premises.

Earlier this year Israel opened its first embassy in Cairo and ambassadors from both countries will present their respective credentials on February 26. One of the main tasks facing both embassies will be to make visa arrangements to facilitate travel across the newly opened frontier.

Within two weeks direct flights between Cairo and Tel Aviv are due to begin under an interim agreement which has now been signed. Two flights a week in either direction are planned by El Al, Israel's national carrier, and Lotus Airlines, a recently formed subsidiary of Egyptair.

Next Monday General Kamel Hassan Ali, the Egyptian Defence Minister, arrives in Israel with a team of senior army officers for a five-day visit as guests of his Israeli counterpart, Mr Ezer Weizman.

## Troop move towards Pakistan reported

Peshawar, Feb 21.—Soviet troops in Afghanistan are moving in force closer to the Pakistan border, and could try to seal it off. Muslim guerrillas in contact with Afghan refugees said today.

They said that Soviet troops had moved out of the garrison town of Jalalabad, 50 miles from the Khyber Pass, and into the border province of Paktia in the past few days.

The Durand Line frontier, named after the British diplomat who drew it in the last century, runs across mountainous terrain separating Pakistan from North-West Frontier Province from Afghanistan. It is frequently crossed by Afghan insurgents taking arms and ammunition to fight the Communist regime in Kabul and returning with intelligence on Soviet and Afghan Army movements.

Insurgent movements with headquarters in Peshawar, an hour's drive from the border, have said guerrillas will cross the border into Afghanistan in a few weeks when the winter snows have melted.

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## Pentagon reduces estimate of Soviet troop numbers

From David Cross  
Washington, Feb 21

The Pentagon has reduced its estimates of the number of Soviet troops occupying Afghanistan. The Defence Department now believes there are 70,000 troops in the country and a further 30,000 on the Soviet side of the border, according to a spokesman.

Earlier estimates put the Soviet strength in Afghanistan at about 95,000.

The spokesman said the lower estimate was due to any withdrawal of Soviet troops but to a "refinement" of earlier figures. It appears that the 30,000 troops now thought to be on the Soviet side of the border were originally included in the 95,000 total.

Meanwhile State Department officials said today that Soviet

and Afghan troops in the Kabul area seemed to be in a state of "heightened alert" in response to a general strike being mounted by shops and businesses in the capital.

The officials said a general closing of shops and businesses appeared to have the support of their owners as well as that of dissident groups and some university students. The strike was evidently encouraged by insurgent groups through so-called "night letters", the officials added.

Reports reaching Washington also said that fire from small-arms and automatic weapons had been heard on the outskirts of Kabul. Similar strikes had taken place in cities like Herat, Kandahar and Jalalabad in the last six weeks and appeared to be spreading.

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## Polo game to bring Brunei and Malaysia closer

From Our Correspondent  
Kuala Lumpur, Feb 21

The King of Malaysia and his queen leave for a private visit to the Sultanate of Brunei on March 4 to watch the Malaysian team take part in an international polo tournament there.

The visit is an indication of the growing warmth between the two countries. Relations had been uneasy for a while after Brunei became part of the Malaysian Federation in 1962. But in the past three years there has been a rapprochement.

In 1978 Daruk Hussain Onn, the Malaysian Prime Minister, and Sir Omar Ali Saifuddin, the father of the Sultan of Brunei, were together at Ascot during the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebrations. It was the first time that the two heads of government had been seen together for more than 15 years.

The same sources said that the Malaysian Prime Minister was supporting demands from one section of the ruling party for Mr Muwanga to be returned to the Cabinet. Mr Binaisa, however, says his efforts to project an image of stability will be negated if he is forced to reinstate Mr Muwanga, who has been named as ambassador to Geneva.

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## Australia unions link boycott to Olympic ban

Melbourne, Feb 21.—Australian trade unions decided today to boycott trade and communications links with the Soviet Union during the Moscow Olympic Games. Australian athletes did not attend.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the executive of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, which represents most Australian workers.

Mr Bob Hawke, president of the council, said that if Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, insisted that athletes stay away from the games, it would be improper for Australians to allow athletes to bear the brunt of neighbouring states.

There is, however, a growing view within Asean, the regional grouping to which Brunei would eventually be invited to join, that the games should be held in Singapore for the period of the games. This would particularly concern Brunei.

Mr Hawke said: "If that were done by the Prime Minister, we would support a general ban on all Soviet Union trade and communication for the period of the games. This would particularly concern Brunei."

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## OVERSEAS

## Italian-American puts Mr Reagan on rack of ethnic jokes

From Patrick Brogan  
Manchester, New Hampshire, Feb 21

The Republican primary here reached something of a slow crescendo last night as the seven candidates gathered in a school auditorium for a "debate". The star of the evening was Mr Ronald Reagan. He faced the last debate, in Iowa, before the caucuses last month and was soundly beaten by Mr George Bush.

Questions were put to the candidates by three reporters and by carefully chosen people in the audience. The answers were, for the most part, predictable, though Mr John Connally accused Mr Stedman Quigley, the Canadian Foreign Minister, of being a KGB agent and Mr Reagan recommended a blockade of Cuba.

One of the reporters reminded the candidates that the deficit in the budget which President Carter has just proposed consists almost entirely of increases in social security payments and welfare payments and asked what they would cut to balance the budget. "I think they say they deserve an 'A', please," she added, "be specific."

So far as anyone can tell, the allegation is totally baseless and after a moment of horrified hesitation Mr Crane was really not used to that sort of thing; he decided to ignore Mr Loeb. That gentleman, whose support for Mr Reagan has been touchingly constant over the years, is now attacking Mr Bush with his usual abandon, and Mr Bush, too, has decided to ignore him.

Since his Iowa defeat Mr Crane has been campaigning assiduously fearing that another defeat by Mr Bush might destroy his chances. So has everybody else and although Mr Bush remains cheerful and confident, his staff shows signs of extreme nervousness.

Their man is ahead, which is a dangerous position to be in. If he comes in second next Tuesday it will be a serious defeat. A month ago, before the Iowa caucuses, the idea of finishing a respectable second to Mr Reagan would have delighted them. But whoever is in the lead must stay there or risk instant oblivion.

Meanwhile, the Democrats are slugging away at one another in what has turned into a tough and unedifying battle. In the *Union Leader's* terminology, "stupid" is Mr Carter, "the coward" is Senator Kennedy, "the flake" (meaning an ineffectual character) is Governor Jerry Brown of California and "the dark horse" is Mr Lyndon LaRouche. The last named is leader of the United States Labor Party, a former Stalinist.

Mr Kennedy is campaigning hard, going from door to door and coffee party to coffee party.

New Hampshire is a small state and it is possible for the senator to meet a high proportion of the voters and to remind them personally of the inflation rate, the cost of petrol, and interest rates that have just increased by 15 per cent.

Mr Kennedy did far better in the Maine caucuses on February 10 than many experts predicted, coming within four percentage points of the vote won by the President. He won the equivalent of nine delegates to Mr Carter's 11.

He did particularly well in the cities and is concentrating his efforts here in the cities of southern New Hampshire. These places are near to Massachusetts and he may do well.

Mr Long made these points in a speech to the National Press Club in Canberra during a two-week visit to Australia.

He agreed with the draft report's rejection of special privileges to protect journalists because this could lead to a licensing system with someone deciding who was a journalist and who was not.

However, Mr Long rejected suggestions by Mr Sean MacBride, the commission chairman and Irish jurist, that journalists deprived of cards recognizing their professional status should have the right of appeal to a professional body with certain judicial authority.

Mr MacBride's suggestion that protection for journalists could be achieved simply by an amendment to the Geneva convention, saying this idea "ignores the reality of what happens, not frequently, but far too often on a dusty road in an African country, at a road block in Vietnam, or in the streets of a city under military law".

Journalists were the only people who could help journalists in these matters, Mr Long said.

Journalists should state their profession as "journalist" in passports: editors should explicitly instruct journalists to avoid danger and journalists should be free of worry about their jobs or reputation if they did not get a story because they were cautious.

Journalists should also report fast and fully about what happened to colleagues in areas of conflict. "If they are missing, if they are hurt or detained, fast reporting can help and the past has shown that", Mr Long said.—Reuter.

## Unesco ideologists worry Reuter head

Canberra, Feb 21.—Mr Gerald Long, the managing director of Reuters, expressed concern today about recommendations likely to be made by Unesco's commission on communication problems.

Mr Long said the commission had managed to temper the effects of ideologists in drawing up the last draft of the report which is due to be released this week. "But there are elements present in the last draft which I would regard as dangerous", he added.

"One of them is a suggestion that there should be set up within Unesco an international centre for the study and planning of information and communication." Ideologists would probably use the centre as a permanent commission to promote ideas rejected by journalists members, he said.

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## Political violence in Turkey takes six lives

Istanbul, Feb 21.—At least six people died and several others were injured in isolated terrorist incidents across Turkey late yesterday and today, security officials said.

The killings were part of the daily left-versus-right violence that has been going on in the country for more than two years and has claimed more than 2,000 lives.

One of the latest casualties was a policeman who was shot dead on his way home late last night in the western port of Izmir, in spite of the imposition of martial law.

Election scene, page 4

## Chinese farmers pull down Great Wall

Peking, Feb 21.—More than 30 miles of the Great Wall of China, has been pulled down by farmers and in spite of protests the destruction continues, *People's Daily* reported today.

A letter in the newspaper said that the Great Wall was only one of several threatened monuments. The letter proposed that a law to punish those who damaged ancient monuments should be passed.

It noted that in December, 1977, the Communist Party's Central Committee issued instructions in response to letters from people that the Great Wall must not be destroyed.

The first sections of the Great Wall were built in the fifth century BC to block invasions from the north.

"Many important ancient monuments are being used as factories and schools and cannot be opened for tourism", today's letter stated. The damage to our ancient buildings is serious.—U.P.L.

## Asean-Europe talks to be dominated by economics

From Our Correspondent  
Kuala Lumpur, Feb 21

Economic cooperation will be the main subject of the meeting next month in Kuala Lumpur between EEC Foreign Ministers and representatives of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean). Official sources said today. However, international developments—including Indochina and Afghanistan—will be discussed.

The meeting is a continuation of a similar meeting in Brussels last year aimed at securing closer political and economic ties and the sources said it was an indication of the need for more contact between the two groups.

As a prelude to the meeting, Asean and the EEC are to sign a wide-ranging economic cooperation agreement which would help Asean in trade, investment, industrial development and transfer of technology.

The agreement, which has been negotiated over the past

few years and was concluded in Brussels last December, will give the Asean nations most favoured nation status. Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia already receive such treatment under the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (Gatt). But the new agreement is to extend the same privilege to Thailand and the Philippines, which are not Gatt signatories.

The five countries are the component members of Asean.

The sources said that one important feature of the pact is the setting up of a joint committee on development cooperation. It is the first time that the EEC has committed itself.

The EEC will be represented at the signing by Mr Arturo Ruffini, the Italian Foreign Minister and President of the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers, and Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the EEC External Affairs Commissioner. The Asean countries will be represented by their foreign ministers.

Refugees threaten hunger strike

From Neil Kelly  
Bangkok, Feb 21

Some 10,000 refugees in the camp holding centre 180 miles east of Bangkok have threatened to go on hunger strike after reports that some of them would soon be repatriated.

Refugees tried to run out of the camp, eight miles from the Kampuchean border, on hearing the news. Children ran from their school houses and other buildings, shouting.

A UNHCR relief worker said today that since hearing the reports yesterday the camp people had been in a state of panic.

Most of the Kampuchean in the camp are anti-communist Free Khmers. Many of them fought the Communists for 10 years before fleeing into Thailand during the past three months.

Mr Poul Hardling, the United Nations High Commissioner for

countries changed their conditions for acceptance.

Those eligible were mainly spouses, parents or children of people already living in the third countries.

Mr Hartling said he had no fears that the Thai authorities would forcibly repatriate refugees. Voluntary repatriation was always a possibility, he said, but it had not been voluntary.

Mr Hartling added that senior officials from the commission recently visited Hanoi and Phnom Penh but these were routine visits only and did not indicate repatriation plans.

No survey of the refugees' feelings about repatriation had been done, he said, but he thought few would wish to return with conditions as they were in Kampuchea. Most of the 10,000 Kampuchean now in holding centres in Thailand this year, adding that "we have never spent so much

A senior civil servant with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has publicly disagreed with an as yet unpublished report on the labelling of food.

The report, from the Food Standards Committee, an independent committee of scientists and experts which advises ministers, is due to be published on March 10.

Criticism of the report was made by Mr John Bamford, head of the food standards division at the ministry, at a conference of food manufacturers.

He said: "If you make a nutritional claim on it, then you will have to give the full nutritional details. I shouldn't say it, but I don't necessarily agree with that. Apart from the fact that you can fill up the whole darn label with it, it is the cost that concerns me."

"You can require people to put all sorts of information on the package, but somebody's got to pay for it, and at the end of the day it's me as a consumer."

Mr Bamford's statement about the report illustrated the tension surrounding the present campaign by the Food Standards Committee to improve labelling laws.

## FOREIGN REPORT

Thousands of US convention votes for leader at stake

### Choosing the people who choose the candidates

The delegates to the 1980 American Republican and Democratic national conventions, to be held in New York between August 11 and 14, will be chosen in the next 15 weeks in an extraordinarily complicated mixture of party caucuses, committee meetings, state conventions and primary elections.

More than half the votes at the Democratic nominating convention, which will be held in New York between August 11 and 14, will be chosen in the next 15 weeks in an extraordinarily complicated mixture of party caucuses, committee meetings, state conventions and primary elections.

Each state has the right to decide how it will select its convention delegates. The most popular method today is the state Presidential primary, in which party members express their preferences through an election, rather than by attending a meeting. It dates back to before the start of the century, and to an attempt to diminish the power of local party bosses.

This year 35 out of the 50 states, plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, are holding primary elections. A separate primary has been devised for Democrats living abroad.

Primaries are designed to test the popular appeal of a candidate, and to win him the votes of party delegates who then go on to the national nominating convention with a pledge to support him there.

Only registered Democrats vote in Democratic primaries; only Republicans in Republican primaries; but there are a number of registered independents who can choose to vote in either of the two but not, and in some states independents are not allowed to vote.

In a few of the states which allow "open primaries", however, supporters may "cross over", deliberately distorting the result.

The Democrat candidates this year are competing for a total of 3,331 convention votes; the Republican candidates for 1,993.

Although primaries vary greatly, there are three basic types that govern the selection of delegates:

1. Proportional representation primary: held by the Democrats in California and parts of Massachusetts. Under this system delegates are divided up among candidates in proportion to the vote that each candidate receives.

2. Advantaged Presidential Primary: held by the Republicans in California and parts of Massachusetts. Under this system delegates are chosen to go on to the congress, district and state conventions.

Conventional wisdom has it that the primaries produce the winners, but individual state results can be misleading, not least, because turnout is so small. In the 1976 primaries only 26 per cent of those who could vote actually did so.

Traditionally, the primary in New Hampshire, to be held on February 25, has been the first primary of the season. But this year the Republican Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico led off on February 17, though New Hampshire remains psychologically important, and is in any case the first state where both parties are to hold their primaries.

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Here, the state wide winner carries with him all the party's delegates from that state to the national convention. During the 70s, the Democrats outlawed winner-take-all binding primaries, in favour of proportional representation at the state and national levels.

In the few states not holding

primary elections, as, for instance, Iowa and Alaska, the process of selecting delegates begins when party members meet in local caucuses, usually at precinct level, to select delegates to the next level, usually county or congressional district, and finally state and national conventions.

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Law Report February 21 1980

## Employment Appeal Tribunal

**Police cadet can claim for unfair dismissal**

Wiltshire Police Authority v. Wynne Before Mr Justice Phillips, Mr G. A. Peers and Ms P. Smith

A police cadet is an employee within the meaning of section 20(1) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, and can bring a complaint of unfair dismissal against a police authority if he is not in the "police service" and are not qualified from being employees for that reason.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal dismissed an appeal by a Wiltshire Police Authority from a decision of a British Industrial tribunal last April that the applicant, Miss Pamela Wynne, succeeded in the preliminary issue of law and was entitled to bring a complaint of unfair dismissal against the authority.

By section 30 (1) an "employee" means an individual who has entered into or works under a contract of employment otherwise than in police service".

Mr. Edward Tabachnik, for the police authority, Mr. J. A. Morrison QC, for the applicant.

MR JUSTICE PHILLIPS said that the police cadet was dismissed for allegedly disobeying an order. The power to appoint cadets is conferred by section 17 of the Police Act, 1964. They were appointed by the chief officer of police with a view to becoming members of his force; but they did not automatically become members at the end of their training and had to apply with others who had not been cadets.

Mr Morrison, for the cadet, claimed that if the ordinary tests to identify a contract of service were applied, she was an employee. He also relied on section 17(2) of the Police Act, which provided that the police authority should be treated for certain purposes as the employer of any police cadet undergoing training with that force.

A police cadet was paid a wage, treated for sick pay and treated for the purpose of national insurance in a manner consistent with being employed. She could resign or be dismissed on two weeks' written notice. She could not engage in other employment

## Chancery Division

**Wages of seconded employee deductible**

Robinson (Inspector of Taxes) v. Scott, Bader Co Ltd. Before Mr Justice Walton.

A United Kingdom parent company seconding, at its own expense, one of its employees to work for an overseas subsidiary should be treated as its European business is entitled to deduct the expenditure from its profits for corporation tax purposes.

His Lordship, delivering a reserved judgment, dismissed an appeal by the Crown from a decision of the Wellingborough general commissioners that such expenditure by the taxpayer company, Scott, Bader Co Ltd, was incurred by it "wholly and exclusively" for the purposes of its trade.

The taxpayer company manufactured and marketed chemical intermediates and synthetic resins. It had several overseas subsidiary companies—one being a French company, Scott, Bader Sturge SA—which during the relevant period had been making losses and showed marked lack of success. At a hearing in 1974, it had agreed to continue its European operations and give strong support to the French subsidiary. Accordingly, in 1975 the taxpayer company increased its shareholding in the subsidiary, thereby acquiring 100 per cent interest in it, and seconded to it Mr. Fearon, one of its employees, as manager to provide the French company with the necessary technical and marketing skills. It continued to pay Mr. Fearon's salary and his expenses and to bear the costs of living abroad.

The taxpayer company appealed against an assessment to corporation tax of £486,000 for its accounting period ended July 2, 1976, claiming a deduction of £46,354, the sum it had paid to Mr. Fearon as wages and expenses. The commissioners upheld its claim, reducing the assessment, and the Crown appealed.

Mr. Michael Hart for the Crown; Mr. J. M. Tallon for the taxpayer company.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that the case turned on the provision in section 130(a) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act, 1970, which prohibited the deduction of expenditure "not wholly being money wholly and exclusively laid out or expended for the purposes of the trade".

Decided cases established that where a parent company afforded financial assistance to its subsidiary three possible situations might arise: (1) that the parent was providing the assistance solely in the interests of the subsidiary; (2) that it provided the assistance partly in the subsidiary's interests and partly in its own; and (3) that it provided it solely in its own interests (see *Odhams Press Ltd v. Cook* (1940) 3 All ER 15) and *Marshall Richards Machine Co Ltd v. Jewitt* (1936) 36 TC 511).

**Brain damaged child to appeal**

The Appeal Committee of the House of Lords (Lord Diplock, Lord Salmon and Lord Scarman) gave Stuart Whitehouse (suing by his mother and next friend, Mrs Eileen Whitehouse) leave to appeal from the majority decision of the Court of Appeal (the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Donaldson dissenting) (*The Times*, January 6, 1979) of a judge of the High Court of Justice at Birmingham, Mr. Justice Bush, to Birmingham, awarding him damages of £100,000.

**Pre-trial reviews**

From April 1, by way of experiment in the Divorce Registry, the Senior Registrar has directed that all applications for property adjustments and lump sums will include a pre-trial review at which the registrar will consider the possibility of settlement of the case or clarification of the issues.

The procedure to be followed includes annexing to the applicant's affidavit in support of the application a list setting out the deponent's capital and all losses, debts and expenses, savings, capital, and also all the deponent's sources of income and the income from each source. A copy of the list with a similar list in respect of the respondent's means, set out

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- without consent, could earn overtime and was subject to the Police and Registry Rules 1974 regarding leave, pay, allowances and similar matters.
- The object of cadetship was to provide training, not to produce qualified cadets. The training lasted two years, the second phase of which was devoted to practical work, mainly in headquarters and police stations.
- Training opportunities open to persons between 16 and 18 as cadets was out of the ordinary in range. They were paid and were liable to be dismissed. Other persons paid to be taught; an apprentice could not be dismissed nor could he readily resign.

The marks of a contract of service were set out in *Ready Mixed Concrete (South East) Ltd v. Ministry of Transport and Road Transport Insurance* (1968) 2 QB 497 and other cases. The Appeal Tribunal's preliminary view had been that there were sufficient marks of a contract of service as a police cadet to sustain an argument to say that she had entered into a contract of employment.

Mr. Tabachnik had then relied on a number of cases to establish that a contract of service could not constitute a contract of service if its primary purpose was to provide teaching and learning.

To the extent that was true. Certainly in the present case the child was not between employee and employer, but between employee and pupil. But a pupil could be an employee as in the case of a student nurse or a trainee in industry. Mr. Tabachnik stressed that the training was not necessarily for the benefit of a general character. But if she did not do, another employee would have to do.

The Appeal Tribunal still adhered to the view that Miss Wynne was employed by the police authority.

Section 17 of the Police Act supported that conclusion but was not necessary to the decision. The case should be dismissed.

The case will be heard in an industrial tribunal on the merits.

Solicitors: Mr. D. W. L. Butler, Trowbridge; Russell Jones and Walker.

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2. Applicants should, preferably, have Service Staff experience of 25 years, or equivalent, and have reached the age of 45, but not have reached the age of 55. Applications will be considered by 21st March 1980.

3. The appointment will be for a probationary period of one year, which may be extended to a further year, up to the age of 55, subject to satisfactory annual reviews. The successful applicant will be required to contribute to the Supplementary Fund.

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5. No testimonials or similar documents should be sent until application has been received.

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# How much longer can President Carter stay in the White House rose garden

He could come out once the hostages are freed and election issues get closer to home



John Anderson, President Carter and George Bush: from foreign to domestic policy.

The United States is suffering from a hysteria. I was repeatedly told during three weeks of travelling in different parts of the country. With one undistinguished exception, however, none of my informants could possibly be described as a victim of the ailment. It was always other people elsewhere who were supposed to be in this condition, and after a while I concluded that something very different was occurring.

A serious debate on American foreign policy is taking place that is far removed from the mood in the Vietnam war days. Then there was a fierce and emotional conflict between the hawks and the doves. Now there is a sober examination of what course the United States ought to pursue in international affairs. That was evident in many private conversations and in much that has appeared in the press.

The combined effect of Iran and Afghanistan has been to shake Americans out of the passivity that characterized their approach to international affairs after Vietnam. There is a new determination, but it should not be mistaken for a new jingoism or even a new

This has important implications for the presidential election. The immediate effect of the crisis will probably hinge behind the President, and the trend has been strengthened by the general belief that he has handled them well. So long as the national instinct is to close ranks behind him, Mr Carter cannot be beaten.

But for how long can foreign affairs drive other issues off the political agenda when the public mood is not frenetic? Mr Carter will do what he can to keep them at the top for as long as possible. His handling of the Iranian and Afghanistan crises has shown astute political calculation as well as statesmanship. By conducting his re-election campaign from the

White House rose garden he has managed to appear more presidential than ever before and to give the special advantage of the incumbent. Nor has he allowed his involvement with international questions to preclude intense political activity on the home front.

The Carter campaign is well organized and knows its strengths. When I asked one Carter organizer how long the rose garden campaign would continue he replied, "for as long as possible".

Yet there are signs that economic questions are once again forcing their way up the public's list of political priorities. Once the hostages are released, foreign policy is likely to become no more than one among the principal issues—though far more important than it was a few months ago. This will leave Mr Carter with a very

good chance of reelection, but not comfortable. Whenever I went I found widespread support for him, but little positive enthusiasm.

I do not believe that he can be defeated on foreign policy. But he might be beaten by someone who can neutralize his advantage on foreign policy and defeat him on economic issues, where there is much dissatisfaction over inflation.

This is a task that should be easier for a Republican than a Democratic challenger, simply because of the timescale. There will be eight Democratic primaries in the next month, including one in the important state of Illinois. There will therefore not be time for a Democrat to play a waiting game.

Senator Edward Kennedy has consequently been induced to attack the President's interna-

tional policy directly, alleging that he brought the trouble on himself by permitting the Shah to have medical treatment on American soil. But the political weakness of that approach is that, even if Mr Kennedy's analysis is correct, it can so easily be misinterpreted as justifying the Iranian seizure of the hostages.

The Republicans, however, do not have to engage Mr Carter, or whoever may be the Democratic nominee, in open combat for some months. They have time to allow the debate on international policy to cool a bit, though it will still be necessary for the Republican candidate to convince the voters that he could handle a foreign crisis as capably as Mr Carter.

This should be easiest for Mr George Bush among those Republican hopefuls who stand a serious chance of the nomin-

ation because he is the one with the most experience in the international field. He may not have had the opportunity to be more than a capable functionary as head of the United States diplomatic mission to China or as Ambassador to the United Nations, but he won much approval from those who served with him when he was director of the Central Intelligence Agency at a difficult time in 1976-77.

There has been some speculation that his election would bring the return of Dr Kissinger as Secretary of State. But this is most unlikely.

Mr Bush has the advantage over Mr Ronald Reagan in seeming more moderate and undoubtedly being more youthful. Over Senator Howard Baker he has the advantage of organization. Senator Baker's inability to assemble an effective cam-

aign team has not only crippled his effort to get the nomination but has raised a serious question mark over his capacity to govern capably if he were President. To be a successful President it is necessary to conduct an impressive collective operation from the White House, not just to be personally competent in dealing with problems and people.

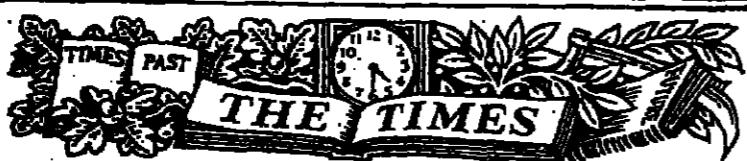
But if Mr Bush loses a good prospect for the Republican nomination does he have the right to defeat a sitting President? He is not so much at ease with economic matters as with foreign policy, and his personality is reassuring rather than exciting.

The one candidate to have aroused genuine excitement is Congressman John Anderson of Illinois. On foreign affairs, energy and economics he is the one candidate who has appeared to be speaking his mind not just playing politics. He is far too liberal to have any chance of the nomination, but that is just what is required to attract the independents and Democrats who are Republicans candidate must win over to stand a chance of victory.

He would be the best vice presidential candidate, balanced, ideologically—and being himself of presidential calibre. The chances may not be high. He has said that he does not want the job; the party regulars would not want him; and he has made some cutting remarks about Mr Bush. Only if Mr Bush wins the nomination with sufficient ease not to have to do any deals with the right wing would there be any chance of such a choice.

He would have the advantage of being a good sex education

and a good sex education



## THE DANGEROUS LAST STAGES

The Ministry of Defence is right to make plans for the withdrawal of the British and Commonwealth monitoring force upon the completion of the election process. Any such plan must contain contingency provisions against untoward events which might imperil any units of that body between now and the completion of the election. We are, however, now close to the last stages of the operation to which all parties agreed at Lancaster House, and it is advisable to take a careful look at the timetable and its relationship to the role of the monitors.

It sounds as though the Ministry of Defence considers that this role is completed when the last vote has been deposited in the ballot boxes, and these are on their way to be counted under conditions in which nobody can suggest tampering took place—the nub, in the official view, of a free and fair election. But it would seem that the role of the monitoring force is to monitor the cease-fire, and this cannot come to an end until the result has been declared and the new constitutional government is installed, at which point the British flag is lowered and monitoring is irrelevant.

Polling ends on February 29 and the results are expected three days later, a point at which the cease-fire, strictly speaking, is still in operation. The moment of great danger will in fact be when the election results are declared, for it is then that those who are disappointed may declare that the election has been manifestly shown not to have been free or fair, and to reject the result—and the ensuing process of government-making by Lord Soames. It is then that the guerrillas, or the forces of any party, might take to the

bush, possibly with Commonwealth hostilities, or possibly after attacking the isolated Commonwealth contingents in their camps.

The first imperative is that the party leaders should publicly accept in advance the results of the elections, however unwelcome and however indicative of the efficacy of the brutal intimidation which is now endemic. This should keep their forces peaceful at declaration of the poll, though there can be no certainty of this. It should, nonetheless, reduce the risk to the monitors. The sooner Lord Soames can get this assurance the better, and if he does not get it, then the greater the relevance of the contingency plans to rescue monitoring units in vulnerable positions.

The presence of the monitors during the period subsequent to the poll itself is important, quite apart from the fact that it seems to be a condition to which Britain has subscribed. For the monitors will exert a calming influence at a tense moment; they will strengthen the presumption that a transition is taking place from a truce to a fullblown peace settlement.

The uncertainties of the situation grow after the results are declared, even if the leaders have been induced to accept them in advance. If Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF party gets 51 of the 100 assembly seats, he would have to be asked to form a government. Indeed he may well have to be asked to try to form one if he gets a majority of the 80 black seats. The dangers increase if, even though his party is the largest black party in the assembly, the Governor's soundings show that all the other parties want Mr Nkomo as prime minister, and are prepared to keep him in office, and to

delegate Mr Mugabe to opposition. Adherence to parliamentary rules would require Lord Soames to accept that outcome, even if it risked repudiation by Mr Mugabe's men and a resumption of hostilities. However, he would no doubt urge upon all the parties the advisability of trying to form a "national" government to obviate such a risk.

During cabinet-making, the monitors can begin to withdraw. They are not in Rhodesia to become involved in any renewed civil war. Nor has Britain any responsibility to draw in, on a plea of supporting the majority coalition in the assembly. If the conditions for the abrogation of Britain's nominal and temporary sovereignty are broken it should be open to Britain to abrogate that responsibility unilaterally and to withdraw, leaving the country to settle its affairs by force of arms if that decision is made despite the elections. The monitors are neutrals now, and whatever government emerges in Salisbury, must remain so. For Britain to abandon the position of referee, and participate in the commencement of what may well be a prolonged period of tribal or other struggles for power would be wrong, damaging to us, but also dangerous for Rhodesia.

The British and Commonwealth troops are at risk. They know it, and they honourably volunteered to take those risks. But the risks they run now and in future have been there from the start: the cease-fire could have broken down at any time. With good management it will not break and the poll, however flawed, will take place. It will be Lord Soames' final task so to preside over the last stage of the election process in Salisbury as to produce the most stable result he can.

## TELEVISION AND THE MOSCOW OLYMPICS

It is the Government's hope and intention that Britain should not be represented in the Moscow Olympic Games this summer. That is an entirely justifiable response to the Soviet action in Afghanistan. But there are certain measures which it would not be justifiable for the Government to take in support of that response. Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, has said that the Government is considering whether to give official advice to the BBC and ITV on whether to cover the games, and the BBC has indicated that if such advice were offered it would be considered very carefully.

As host nation the Soviet Union will presumably control the filming of the games. That is the customary practice which normally works well enough. But the Government is understandably worried that the Soviet authorities will exercise their prerogative in such a way as to secure a bogus diplomatic triumph. "The prospect of a march-past of athletes giving an 'eyes-right' to President Brezhnev would", Mr Hurd told the House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, "be an intolerable signal sent across

the world." That is a powerful argument against the athletes going to Moscow. Their presence would be used for propaganda purposes to give the impression that international opinion was not offended by the invasion of Afghanistan. But what ought the broadcasting authorities, and newspapers for that matter, to do if the games do proceed as scheduled?

The first principle is that it should be for the broadcasters and the newspapers themselves to take this decision. In a free society it is not for governments to tell them what they may or may not report in order to suit a political purpose, no matter how admirable that purpose may be. The Government should leave the decision to the broadcasters because one of the essential distinctions between a free country and the Soviet Union is that where there is freedom a government's wish can be ignored even when it is right.

What then should the broadcasters do? They should base their decision on accepted broadcasting values, which means that they should judge according to the importance of the occasion and the interest in it. If the Olympics are widely boycotted, then they will be of little sporting value and the interest in them will be minimal. If British

athletes do not take part then British interest will be substantially reduced. This is what one hopes will happen. But it is always a mistake for broadcasters or newspapers to behave as if something disagreeable has not occurred just because they do not want it to happen. If the Moscow Olympics do take place in recognizable form then it would be wrong for the broadcasting authorities to ignore them, whether advised to do so or not.

They would have a particular obligation, however, to ensure that their coverage was not politically naive. If at all possible they should see that the filming is not left in the hands of the Soviet Union. If no other arrangement is practicable then they should make certain that the commentators correct any political bias in the filming, either in what is shown or in what is excluded from the screen. This is a difficulty that newspapers would not face, but it should not present too daunting a challenge to accomplished broadcasters. The best outcome would be an effective boycott that killed the games. If it is not, the Government should have the courage of a free country's principles. A free country cannot boycott an event by boycotting the reporting of it.

We would like to place on record our profound respect for the self-sacrificing work of the banished Dsakharov and his arrested (or charged) friends, whose number grows daily: Tatjana Velikanova, Victor Nekipelov, Mala Landa, Gleb Yakunin, Vyacheslav Bakhtin, Anatol Terleckas, Dmitry Dukko, Rollan Kadiyev, Victor Solikov, Yury Grin, Valery Abramkin, and many, many others.

We will do everything we can to support these noble people through their imprisonment, and also to obtain their release. By persecuting them the Soviet regime is creating martyrs, and agitating the serious moral ills which they have drawn attention to with such courage and moderation.

Yours faithfully,  
MARK BONHAM CARTER,  
DAN JACOBSON,  
TOM STOOPARD,  
MICHAEL SCAMMELL,  
STUART HAMPSHIRE,  
DAVID ASTOR,  
ROLAND PENROSE,  
LOIS STEPP,  
JIM ROSE,  
EDWARD CRANSHAW,  
c/o Writers and Scholars  
Association  
21 Russell Street, WC2  
February 14.

Although a Marxist state it is today a leader of the non-aligned countries, and a bulwark against Russian expansion in Europe.

That this is so is in large measure due to the wisdom and courage of Churchill and those who led our mission to Tito during the war.

In spite of his being a Marxist and a guerrilla leader, we supported his cause.

Twenty years later the Americans showed less wisdom. They opposed Castro in Cuba and drove him into the arms of Russia. Today they have a potential Soviet base on their doorstep.

If Mugabe, a Marxist (though a Christian), a friend of China but not of Russia, is elected leader of Zimbabwe, he could become either a Tito or a Castro.

Which course he chooses will depend largely on our behaviour in the immediate future. I hope our present government will show the wisdom and courage of Churchill.

Yours truly,  
WALSTON,  
Town's End Springs,  
Tirpito,  
Cambridge.  
February 19.

We do not accept this. In most cases the only "escape provision" available will be that which permits husbands and wives to agree that their home shall not be jointly owned. This means that where the parties give no thought to co-ownership, or one of them is unwilling to exclude it, they will jointly own the property.

We therefore believe that the Bill will produce justice in a large number of cases which it would not otherwise be achieved. We also believe that one of the most important functions of the Bill will be to establish that co-ownership is the "norm" and to influence more spouses to provide for it expressly.

Mr Davies goes on to say that where a spouse is a co-owner but is not on the legal side, real hardship could be caused by a surreptitious sale by the other party, and adds that the position of such a spouse will be worse under our proposals than under the present law. We cannot agree with the latter point.

It is true that we propose the removal of what he rightly calls "the rather uncertain provision of the Law of Property Act, 1925, and the consequential notice doctrine of the Land Registration Act, 1925".

But in its place we propose new powers for husbands and wives to

temporarily be forced to close down.

control dispositions of the home. These powers can be protected by registration which would effectively prevent a surreptitious sale.

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN EDELL,  
Law Commissioner,  
Conquest House,  
37-38 John Street, WC1.  
February 20.

Cause for consideration

From Lord Walston

Sir, There is all the difference in the world between Marxism and Russian Imperialism. Any who doubts this should look at Yugoslavia.

Although a Marxist state it is today a leader of the non-aligned countries, and a bulwark against Russian expansion in Europe.

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## COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
February 21: Miss P. M. Hutchinson was received in audience by The Queen this morning and kissed hands upon her appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Montevideo.

The Excellency Señor José Juan de Olguín, who had the honour of being received by The Queen, presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the United Mexican States to the Court of St James.

His Excellency Señor José Juan by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Señor Encarnación Héctor Cardenas (Minister Counsellor); Señor Horacio Flores-Sánchez (Minister Counsellor); Señor Dr Carlos Tomás Pedralosa (Minister Counsellor); Señor Licenciado Andrés Londoño (Counsellor); Señor Licenciado Javier Pérez Pizarro (Counsellor); Señor Licenciado Jorge Ortega (Counsellor); Señorita Perla María Carvalho (First Secretary and Captain Augusto Flores (Adm. Naval) (Counsellor).

Señor de Olguín had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Edward Youde (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Edward Hayes (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President, gave a dinner party at Buckingham Palace this evening for Honorary Fellows of the Royal Agricultural Society of England. The Prince of Wales visited the Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, WC2, today.

The Hon. Edward Adeane was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE  
February 21: The Duke of Gloucester, as President of British Consultants Bureau, was present at a seminar, "Sources of Support for British Consultants Working Abroad" at The Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London, W1.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE  
February 21: Princess Alexandra, Patron of the Queen's Royal Naval Nursing Service, this afternoon received Miss P. Gould upon relinquishing the appointment of Matron-in-Chief and Miss M. E. Collins upon assuming this appointment.

In the evening, Her Royal Highness and the Hon. Angus Ogilvy were present at the twenty-eighth Annual Maple Leaf Ball of the Canadian Women's Club at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London. Miss Morna Mitchell was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent celebrates her birthday today.

The Duke of Kent will open the Tower of London on March 26.

BIRTHDAYS today

Sir Roderick Barclay, 71; Lord Marmion, 73; Sir John Mills, 72; Mr Sean O'Faolain, 80; Sir John Primrose, 80; Mr Henry Reed, 66; Sir Alan Smith, 87; Canon J. R. L. Thomas, 72.

Buckingham Palace Luncheon  
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh had luncheon party at Buckingham Palace yesterday. The guests were: Mr John Dickson (politician); Sir John Goss (engineer); Mr John Grimshaw (engineering workers); Mr Colin Bramwell (politician); Mr Michael Frayn (novelist and playwright); Mr Alan Gaskins (architect of Plymouth); Dr Colin Gaskins (architect); Mr Alan Headmaster (Westminster School); and Professor Sir Alan Salter (professor of education and technology, London University).

The Dowager Marchioness of Cholmondeley has left 12 Kensington Palace Gardens, and returned to Broughton Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

## Forthcoming marriages

The Rev N. J. W. Barker and Miss K. G. Pritchard. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs N. J. W. and Mrs Barker, of Dent, Cumbria, and Sophie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. Pritchard, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Mr J. Ghomizadeh and Miss C. A. Tyson. The engagement is announced between Iman, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. Miri Ghomizadeh, of Tehran, Iran, and Catherine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Tyson, of Beddige, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Mr D. J. Rose and Miss E. McEvoy. The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. Rose, of Northenden, Manchester, and Andrea, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A. McEvoy, of Streetly, Sutton Coldfield.

## Marriage

Mr A. M. S. Fort and Miss M. C. Richards. The marriage took place on Thursday, February 14, in St George's Cathedral, Town, between Mr and Mrs A. M. S. Fort, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Fort, of 1 Union Place, St Peter Port, Guernsey, and Miss Margaret Claire Richards, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Richards, of 51 St Swithun's, Grange, Cape Town, the Dean of Cape Town officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Andrea Richards and Miss Sally Richards. Mr Marcus Blaney was best man.

## Luncheons

H.M. Government. The Hon. Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

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RECEPTIONS  
Lord Bethell  
Lord Bethell attended the annual reception of the Foreign Affairs Forum held yesterday evening at the House of Lords. The guests included members of HM Government and Conservative members of the Westminster and European Houses of Parliament.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Mr J. Dickson Mabon, MP, vice-chairman UK branch, and Mr Ronald Bell, QC, MP, chairman Anzacs group of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, were hosts yesterday at a reception held in Westminster Hall in honour of the Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand.

DINNERS  
Association of Consulting Engineers

Mr D. J. Coats, Chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers, presided at the association's annual dinner at the London Club, to whom it was presented, and those of Trinity College, Dublin. It went to a buyer from c. Dublin at £8,000 (estimate £3,500 to £4,500). Sotheby's also sold minor English antiques to a total of £28,815, with 5 per cent unsold. Sotheby's Belgravia held a

## Service dinners

RAF Staff College

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, opens Elmslie Centre, Staines.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron in chief, visits Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London, 12.15.

East Midlands Universities Air Squadron

The Duchess of Kent visits Principe Bacon Lodge and Caroline House, Norwich, 2.20.

British Mexican Society

The annual dinner of the East Midlands Universities Air Squadron was held last night at RAF Station, Saffron Walden, Essex. D. Brooks presided and the other speakers were Air Chief Marshal Sir David Evans, AOC-in-C Strike Command, and Dr C. C. Butler, Vice-Chancellor of Loughborough University of Technology.

£150,000 grants for Irish arts

The Arts Council of Ireland is doubling the amount it is spending on bursaries and scholarships in midwives, arts, with grants totalling £100,000.

New awards include a bursary in music composition to celebrate the centenary of Sir Hamilton Harty, scholarships in arts education and awards for students of instrument-making.

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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**LAING**  
 make ideas take shape

**Stock markets**

FT Index 457.6, down 0.7

FT Gilt 65.84 down 0.12

**Sterling**

\$2.2870 up 75 points

Index 72.8 up 0.3

**Dollar**

Index 85.6 down 0.1

**Gold**

\$558 up \$30.5

**Money**

3 min sterling 174-175

3 min Euro-S 151-151

6 min Euro-S 151-151

**IN BRIEF**
**Industry plea for major exporting incentive**

Mr Michael Hoffman, chairman of Perkins Engines, the world's largest specialist producer of diesel engines, has called on the Government to establish major new incentives for exporters as the only way to avoid Britain becoming "a manufacturing desert".

In an open letter to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, Mr Hoffman urges him to make provision in next month's Budget for more and cheaper export credit guarantees and to introduce an export rebate scheme geared to the sterling exchange rate.

Exporters were being crippled by the combination of a high inflation rate, inherently low levels of industrial productivity, high interest rates, and an over-valued pound, reflecting the impact of North Sea oil, he said.

Export aid to cost more, page 18.

**Thorn bid snag**

Thorn Electrical may have been thwarted by the French government in its hopes of acquiring control of Locaté, a French television rental company. Reports from Paris say that Cie Générale d'Électricité and Thomson-Brandt have been asked by the government to make a counter-bid. Thorn says it has received no official notification of the status of its bid, made last June.

Financial Editor, page 19

**Defence contract**

Ultra Electronic Communications of Greenford, Middlesex, part of the Dowty Group electronics division, has received an order from the Ministry of Defence for sonobuoys worth more than £14m.

**Aluminium output up**

Aluminium production in the non-communist world rose in January to 1,048,000 tonnes, a rise of 955,000 tonnes from a year earlier. World primary aluminium capacity stood at 13.4m tonnes at the end of last year and is expected to rise to 14.1m tonnes by the middle of 1981.

**Talbot Cars threat**

Production is threatened at the Talbot Cars engine manufacturing plant in Coventry where 200 factory cleaners went on an unofficial strike yesterday over pension and lay off pay rights. Pickets turned away several lorries with components.

**Dearer plastics**

Shell Chemicals is to increase the price of all grades of polypropylene, in moulded goods and packaging film, by 10 per cent next month. The company, which blamed the rises on increased crude oil and feedstock costs, says prices will have to go up again this year.

**£12m BP ship order**

Barclays (Shipping), of Lowestoft, a Tate & Lyle subsidiary, has won a £12m safety and support vessel for British Petroleum, to operate in the North Sea Magnis Field.

**PRICE CHANGES**
**Rises**

De Vere Hotels 13p to 23p  
Imp Com Gas 10p to 11p  
Lakewood 14.50 to 45p  
Mills Wits 10p to 47p  
Morgan Edwards 15p to 13p

**Falls**

Airfix Ind 2p to 17p  
Carrion Vly 13p to 14p  
Change Wares 15p to 75p  
Foster Bros 6p to 95p  
Gillott Bros 25p to 165p

**THE POUND**

Bank Bank Bank  
Australia 5 2.12 2.05 2.05  
Australia Sch 30.20 26.20 26.20  
Belgium Fr 69.50 66.00 66.00  
Denmark 5 2.69 2.62 2.62  
Germany Kr 12.87 13.32 13.32  
Finland Mk 8.80 8.49 8.49  
France Fr 9.63 9.23 9.23  
Germany Dm 4.17 3.95 3.95  
Ireland Dr 8.80 8.40 8.40  
Hongkong 5 11.50 11.00 11.00  
Ireland Fr 1.31 1.07 1.07  
Ireland 1950.00 1860.00 1860.00  
Spain Yn 583.00 558.00 558.00  
Netherlands Gld 4.59 4.36 4.36

## PSBR likely to be under £9,000m for full year despite third quarter rise

By John Whitmore  
The public sector borrowing requirement totalled £9,966m on a seasonally-adjusted basis in the first nine months of the present financial year. But the Government still appears to feel confident that the full year outcome will be just below £9,000m.

The Chancellor announced measures last November to generate additional revenue in the final quarter and in particular decided to raise a further £700m from the oil companies by accelerating payments of petroleum revenue tax.

This apart, the final quarter already looked likely to produce small surplus for the public sector as a result of a number of special factors.

First, the bulk of the Government's receipts from its £1,000m programme of asset sales will fall in the January-March period. Second, the distortions in the Post Office's finances as a result of the strike last year which delayed customers' bills has meant that about £500m (of an estimated £1,000m of revenue foregone during the first three quarters) would be recovered in the last three months of the financial year.

The news of the third quarter PSBR figures made little impact in the City. Markets are now more concerned with the day-to-day consequences on the monetary system of the exceptionally

large flows of money that have been moving out of the private sector and into the hands of the Exchequer in recent weeks.

They are also very interested in what Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, is going to say about next year's PSBR in his Budget speech on March 26.

Although indications over the past few days which suggest that the Chancellor is now thinking in terms of holding the PSBR at about the same level in nominal terms, have provided a degree of reassurance—previously it had seemed that the Government was thinking in terms of allowing the PSBR to rise to about £10,000m—the City will be keen to see both the way in which the Government plans to do this and assumptions on which it makes its forecast.

The main reason for the Chancellor's apparent wish to scale down next year's PSBR compared with his earlier plan is the growing feeling that any rise in the borrowing requirement could now make it very difficult to justify a fall in interest rates.

Financial Editor, page 19

Table page 20

ries, which saw an 8 per cent rise over the year, with a 2 per cent rise in the fourth quarter to reach £1,308m at 1975 prices.

This breakdown may exaggerate the shift into investment in service industries, because leased goods are counted as being bought by the service sector even if they are actually destined for use in manufacturing.

However, industry tried to gear itself up for a bleak beginning to the 1980s by cutting back on stocks. Manufacturing industry stocks fell by £37m but slack trading in the retail outlets forced shops to accept an increase of £18m in their levels as unsold goods piled up during the fourth quarter of last year.

New figures released by the Department of Industry suggest that total investment by manufacturing and service industries during 1979 was higher than initial estimates of the level during the first half of the year suggested. It is thought that investment during 1979 as a whole was about 4 per cent higher in real terms than the recorded total.

Commenting on the latest investment figures, Lord Trentham, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, said: "In my view it is surprising and encouraging that capital investment has held up as well as it has."

Department surveys suggest that it will not do so much longer. The last survey of investment intentions, published on January 3, suggested that the total volume of investment would fall by between 6 and 10 per cent in 1980 in manufacturing and that the service and distributive trades would experience at best a 5 per cent increase.

Table, page 20

## Capital spending holds steady but stock figures hint at recession

By Our Economics Staff

Capital spending by industry was almost unchanged in the fourth quarter of 1979 from its previous level, in spite of predictions of a sharp downturn as a result of the expected recession.

However, industry tried to gear itself up for a bleak beginning to the 1980s by cutting back on stocks. Manufacturing industry stocks fell by £37m but slack trading in the retail outlets forced shops to accept an increase of £18m in their levels as unsold goods piled up during the fourth quarter of last year.

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The figures show a sharp disparity between the performance of manufacturing industry, which is estimated to have seen a fall of 3 per cent to £944m at 1975 prices in the fourth quarter of the year, with static performance over the year as a whole; and the service indus-

tries, which saw an 8 per cent rise over the year, with a 2 per cent rise in the fourth quarter to reach £1,308m at 1975 prices.

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Table, page 20

## Halifax promise on lower interest rates

By Margaret Stone

The Halifax Building Society, with assets of more than £9,000m, yesterday dismissed any hopes that the building society movement would be able to move on to a new interest rate structure.

Mr Albert Thayre, chief general manager, made it clear that the Halifax would begin to bring down its interest rates as soon as a general downwards trend had been established.

Mr Thayre said that the Halifax was not fundamentally opposed to the Stow report. He thought interest rates might be a little slow in moving down, but he was against "consciously holding them up to create a new situation".

The report said: "It is probable that the general level of interest rates will fall during the year and in this event, the committee believes that societies should hold their interest rates until such time as mortgage demand is being reasonably met."

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## Americans seek trade concessions from Britain to offset restrictions imposed on fibre imports

By John Huxley

Retaliatory action against British products will be taken if the United States fails to obtain compensation for restrictions imposed on fibre imports.

Mr Reuben Askew, the United States trade negotiator, said in London yesterday that Britain was being asked to make trade concessions to offset the loss of business resulting from quota restrictions.

He said that should Britain fail to do so the United States would make counter moves, although he did not specify products which might be affected.

Mr Askew said that talks to be held under Articles 19 and 23 of GATT would begin within the next fortnight and would be expected to reach a conclusion in 90 days.

Department of Trade officials have been studying the implications of the American request for talks. It has taken trade

## Broking firms with major overseas links seek ways to limit concessions to jobbers

By Peter Wainwright

Representatives of 25 broking firms with big overseas links met last night to decide what alterations they wished to put forward to draft revisions of the Stock Exchange rule book, provisionally agreed earlier this month.

The Stock Exchange Council's draft was designed to give jobbers greater freedom to win business abroad, while preserving the traditional separation of broker and jobber at home.

The subject has come to a head now that exchange controls

have been more than envisaged. It seems to have been accepted that there was no point in going against the Council's wishes. Brokers wanted, tactfully, to give the Council the benefit of advice from those with knowledge of business overseas.

The meeting was taking

advantage of the time given by the Council for members to comment on the draft and propose amendments. The draft is open until March 14, three times longer than usual. The rules will come into force on that day if there are no amendments.

Yesterday's meeting was

set up a working party to

compile a submission to the

Council that would indicate

ways in which the list of people

with whom jobbers would be

allowed to deal, which is drawn

up annually and vetted by the

Stock Exchange, can be tight-

"But the Council decided that if the rules were clear, they would be respected by the jobbers." Hence the brokers' stress on clarification.

Jobbers were wary of commenting ahead of their own suggestions to the draft. One was sure that jobbing members would be cautious in using any new freedom.

Some brokers still think that they are being asked to surrender something for nothing, but they have the power to decide which jobbers to approach in British dealing if they continue to feel aggrieved.

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## State group gives ship contract to Belgium

By Peter Hill  
Industrial Editor

Britain's hard-pressed shipbuilding industry has lost a conversion contract placed by a government-sponsored research organization to a Belgian shipyard, at a time when government departments are under pressure to advance public sector orders to boost employment prospects in British yards.

The National Environmental Research Council sponsored by the Department of Education has placed a £1.5m contract for the conversion of a former French trawler into a fully-equipped research ship with an Ostend yard.

Price unification would pave the way for the introduction of a system of automatic price adjustments which would increase the price of oil in real terms without damaging Western economies.

The contract to build a road through the Baluchistan province is one of the biggest undertaken by a British concern in Iran. It was started in 1975 and employs about 50 Bath and Portland personnel, the largest single group of British staff still working in that country.

The final report of the committee for the past three years with delays in payments, difficulties in training and rising costs which have taken the value of the contract up from the originally estimated £43m to more than £100m. After the overthrow of the Shah the project was suspended last year but was restarted after assurances from Iran's ministry of roads that it would meet its obligations.

Sir Kenneth Selby, Bath and Portland's chairman, said that payment due prior to the start of the project had not been made and there had been any agreement on the cost of extra works.

The impact of the recession on the level of stocks is expected to be less clear. All sectors of industry would like to reduce stock levels, it would remain to be seen if the real value of stocks would rise.

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## 9,100 more US car workers to be laid off

Detroit, Feb 12.—General Motors said it will close two plants and partly shut down another next week, temporarily laying off 9,100 workers.

The company is to close the Detroit Cadillac plant and the companion Fisher Body Fleetwood plant, both for one week. GM's van line at Lordstown, Ohio, will also close down next week for the first of two weeks.

The company now has 92,100 hourly workers on indefinite layoff.—Reuter.

### EEC deficit

The European Community's trade deficit with the rest of the world widened to 14,800 million ECU's (\$4,559m) in the first nine months of 1979, Eurostat, the EEC statistical office, reported.

### Uranium warning

A lack of confidence in the uranium fuel market could lead to a severe supply shortage for nuclear power plants by the year 2000, an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development special report, compiled by its nuclear energy agency and international atomic agency said.

### Japanese deal opposed

The Italian industry confederation has opposed the proposed venture between Alfa Romeo and the Japanese Nissan group while the Communist party is backing the deal. The Communists, who form the nation's second-largest party, say it will raise Alfa's output and create jobs.

### Foreign cars needed

Mr Donald Fraser the United Auto Workers union president said the United States car industry needed the competition of foreign manufacturers, but that foreign producers should rely more on domestic labour he said.

### Tourism outlook poor

Growth of international tourism continued last year despite the gradual deterioration of the economic situation, but prospects for 1980 are less favourable, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development said.

### Investment falls

Foreign assets invested in the United States dropped by \$1,000m (about £440m) in last year's fourth quarter after a \$5,400m rise in the third quarter. The decrease is attributed to substantial sales of dollars to limit depreciation of the Japanese yen.

### Oil imports decline

Japanese crude oil imports on an annual basis fell in January by 7.7 per cent to 22.1 million kilotonnes from 24.04 million in December and down 11.5 per cent from the level a year earlier.

### Record budget deficit

Switzerland's budget deficit rose to a record Sfr1.790m (about \$486.4m) in 1979, which was 447 million francs higher than the shortfall officially forecast earlier.

### Oil output rise

India will increase production from its offshore Bombay High Field to 240,000 barrels a day in 1982 from the present level of about 140,000 barrels.

### Higher trade surplus

South Africa had a trade surplus of 761.3m rands (about \$440m) in January from imports of R938.5m and exports of R1,700m. In December the surplus was R381.3m.

### Irish production up

The Irish Republic's industrial output rose by a fractional 0.2 per cent in the third quarter of 1979 from the previous quarter. In September alone output volume rose by 8.7 per cent from the level a year earlier.

### Cooperation sought

Japan and Mexico will hold a joint economic committee meeting in Tokyo next week to discuss energy and bilateral economic cooperation. Mexico is seeking Japanese help in port construction and railway electrification.

### Iraq bus order

British Leyland's wholly-owned truck and bus subsidiary in South Africa said it has won an order worth 28 million rands (about £18.2m) to supply 200 double-decker buses to the Baghdad passenger transport service.

## Programme tackles prices, balance of payments and unemployment

## South Korea faces up to economic change

South Korea's official economic policy has undergone some important changes since the new government took over at the end of last year after the assassination of President Park Chung Hee in October. The government economic planning board, headed by Lee Hahn-Been, the deputy premier, has just issued its economic management plan for 1980, outlining some of the changes and the reasoning behind them.

Rising oil prices, a sluggish demand for Korea's exports and a rapid increase in imports, made 1979 a hard year, raising consumer and wholesale prices and widening the deficit in the balance of payments. But the stabilization plan has successfully reduced the expansion of the money supply and aggregate consumption, and the economy still managed an overall growth rate of 7.1 per cent.

Faced with certain increases in oil prices in 1980, the economic management plan summarizes South Korea's three main problems. These are to restrain the rise in the overall price level, to deal with a further deterioration in the balance of payments and to contain unemployment without a large-scale reduction in output.

The government recognizes increased export competitiveness as the best solution to these problems and as a first step, devalued the won on January 12. Other monetary policies are under way, potential lending nations are keenly awaiting the outcome of loan negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and the South Korean government is considering floating the won which has been traditionally tied to the United States dollar—against a basket of currencies.

In an attempt to improve exports and revitalise the economy, the government intends not only to encourage more foreign

investment but to seek expansion beyond present markets.

Until 1977, investment from Japan and the United States accounted for nearly 80 per cent of all foreign investment in South Korea. Since then, Europe has come increasingly into the picture and the economic management plan notes Korea's intention of further market diversification in 1980, especially to the Middle East and the East European countries.

The government will seek more construction contracts in the Middle East and will encourage Korean companies to enter into joint ventures with oil companies and alternative energy producing countries.

In September, 1979, the usual minimum permissible foreign investment limit was raised from \$200,000 (£55,105) to \$500,000 (£220,264) and the general principle of restricting foreign equity to 50 per cent was maintained with only a few exceptions.

The Korean Government preferred to borrow overseas and manufacture locally under licence as an alternative to direct foreign investment in industry. The minister in charge of the economic planning board in 1976 put it simply, "It is cheaper to buy the technology and borrow the money."

But the 1980 economic management plan suggests a reversal of these policies, saying that there is no longer any reason for the government not to accept direct foreign investment and full foreign ownership.

This will apply particularly to totally export-oriented projects, to the electronics industry, to capital-intensive, sophisticated machinery industries, technology intensive industries and industries that do not conflict with established domestic industries.

The 1980 plan stresses the government's intention of promoting light industry. Small business will be opened to foreign investment and joint ventures with foreign companies will be permitted even when the amount of venture capital is less than the previously stipulated \$500,000.

Last September the economic planning board announced that there would be a gradual withdrawal of the concessions to foreign investors, but although the new 1980 plan makes no mention of this, the board has let it be known that the present favourable law will not be changed.

Government policy in 1980 is to promote free competition and to enact a free trade law which will in turn necessitate redefining the government role. Banking institutions will be given a greater degree of autonomy in managing risk and although a growth in imports is obviously undesirable, the government says it will not impose direct controls.

The economic management plan sums up South Korea's economic prospects for the next two years. An economic growth rate of between 3 and 5 per cent and a current account deficit of \$4,700m (£2,070m) are expected in 1980 but with a business recovery abroad, prospects for 1981 are rosier, with a probable economic growth rate of 8 to 8.5 per cent and a drop in the current account deficit to \$3,500m (£1,540m). To finance the deficit, the government intends to seek \$5,200m in foreign loans and investments in 1980 and \$4,000m in 1981. The government plans to maintain foreign exchange reserves at the \$6,200m (£2,730m) level in 1980 rising to \$6,700m (£2,951) in 1981.

Jacqueline Redditt  
in Seoul

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Government must help small companies to invest

From Mr Rousland J. Gee  
Sir, I support the present Government but feel they are ignoring the very people they are pledged to support and are being diverted by the present industrial unrest.

I am talking about the small company, specifically the small manufacturer, who employs 250 people or thereabouts, of which there are many hundreds of thousands.

It is vital that these firms operate on similar terms to their international competitors. This takes money. I travel extensively throughout Europe, specifically visiting textile firms, and note the magnificent facilities offered to the workforce, not only in terms of the most modern machinery available, but in the canteens, crèches, games rooms, training areas and offices. People respond to such conditions with efficiency.

Many of these superb small factories are in Italy, a country, we are told, not as well off as the United Kingdom. My suggestions are as follows:

- (1) Turnover of the company requesting a grant should be provided for their last financial year.
- (2) A percentage would be decided upon by the

Department of Industry. This amount would be the grant.

(3) Companies could apply on an annual basis.

(4) Manufacturing companies in every field should be invited to present ideas as to how this money should be spent.

(5) These ideas would be presented to a highly respected member of each industry concerned, possibly selected by the CBI, working as a satellite of the DoI. He, knowing the pressures on weaknesses of individual industries, would filter the ideas from the unnecessary.

Our manufacturers must compete with the same advanced techniques used abroad. Many of them need every penny that they either have or borrow. If action is not taken soon many of these Tory supporters may not be in business at re-election time.

ROWLAND J. GEE,  
Director,  
Cecil Gee International,  
39/45 Shaftesbury Avenue,  
London W1V 8AX.

## Paying wages in advance

Sir, We are a small company but our experience in the domain which is now publicly discussed may be of some relevance.

In 1966/67 we employed about 100 persons paid weekly. We offered to pay their wages monthly but they all declined.

Last year we suggested to our London employees that they be paid not weekly in arrears but monthly in advance.

They accepted. Some of the employees are part-timers receiving low wages. I am informed by all members of the staff that this system of paying wages is more convenient and enables them either to stand off or to save more. We have cut down administrative work by at least 60 per cent excluding certain other fringe economies.

We conclude that this experiment is beneficial to employer and employees.

Yours faithfully,  
R. COHEN,  
Finexra Limited,  
1146 London Road,  
London SW16 4DR.  
February 19.

## Post offices on wheels

From Mrs Margaret Peacock  
Sir, The mobile county library service has been successful in country areas for some time; has a mobile post office service been considered?

MARGARET PEACOCK,  
91 Plantation Road,  
Milton Keynes MK17 8LX.  
February 20.

## Micro-electronics

From Professor John Shepherd  
Sir, In his letter of February 13 asking for a "centre of excellence" for the micro-electronics industry to be set up, Mr Scouller, Southampton's Chief Executive, is thinking along similar lines to the electronics industry and education establishments in the Milton Keynes area.

If Mr Scouller seeks a "centre of excellence" may I respectfully suggest that it be in Milton Keynes.

We, at the Milton Keynes Association for Micro-electronics, have the answer to his question. This association was set up to provide assistance and expertise to industry in the application of micro-electronics to their products and systems. We also advise on training needs and provide an information service to members.

In and around our city there

## Fourth TV Channel plans challenged

From Mr Derek Bloom  
Sir, If the Government has only just discovered that handing over the Fourth Television Channel to the ITV contractors is not costless for the taxpayer, that is a remarkable lack of understanding about much examined issues.

Production will continue at TBM's North Mill, also in Purfleet, and other plants at Warrington and Workington, where a £100m expansion programme is nearing completion.

When announced in 1978 this project attracted record government grants of about £28m.

Thames Board Mills, part of the Unilever group, said yesterday that the 50-year-old South Mill had been losing money for several years. Demand for the type of cardboard it produced had been declining steadily and in recent months the plant had been operating at only 80 per cent of capacity.

Losses at the company's two Purfleet mills were together put at £1.8m last year.

Some of the production capacity of South Mill will be transferred to North Mill and to the plant at Warrington.

Thames Board Mills plans to triple the size of its duplex board factory in Workington to fight Scandinavian imports. This is expected to create 250 more jobs at the mill, where 500 are already employed, and a further 350 in the forestry and transport industries in Scotland and northern England.

The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) complained yesterday about lack of consultation over the closure

time (not necessarily true of the ITV contractors), it is to the public interest not to accept the IRA's proposals this winter. There would be no need for the sales agents to have representation on the Fourth Channel management board, so ruling out commercial criteria dominating programming decisions.

This proposal has been put to the Home Office and to the Home Secretary a number of times to no avail. Apart from the fallacious belief that entrusting Fourth Channel airtime sales to the ITV contractors and obliging them to subscribe to its costs would somehow prevent any part of that cost falling on the taxpayer, they were worried that competition in sales necessarily implied competition in programming, with deleterious effects on standards.

Sitting aside the point already made about insulating of the Fourth Channel management board from commercial criteria, this wholly ignores the IBA's powerful legal status which seems to be little known via the IBA Handbook.

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK BLOOM, Chairman, Working Party, 43 Old Bond Street, London W1X 4AP.

## Lending to building societies

From Mr G. Rownberry  
Sir, A point is periodically made in your business section and later by Professor J. Parry Lewis that building society lenders have not shown in the capital appreciation (presumably of dwelling units) that their loans finance. I do not understand what relevance this has to building society investments as such.

A similar consequence results from loans made by banks and other lenders who put out money on security in order to obtain interest. The particular advantage of building society investment is that it enables depositors to subscribe weekly, monthly or even periodically funds as suits them.

If they wish to secure capital appreciation and are prepared to commit the relevant funds they can do so by purchasing government stocks or paying premiums on life or endowment policies.

They can also, however, derive very substantial capital benefits even through a building society (or a number of building societies) by investing the same funds that the borrower does.

Let us take the example of £10,000 invested in a paid up £100 share account for 25 years at 10.50 per cent would accumulate to £129,153.22. If this were placed in a five-year convertible term share and left there for 25 years, the balance would accumulate to £207,227.28 at the current interest rate of 12.50 per cent.

2. The mortgage repayments on £10,000 over 25 years, £128.92 if invested in a monthly subscription, would accumulate to £228,848.71.

These figures make no allowance for the tax relief which the borrower gets on the interest element of his investment, or the 15 per cent interest income which the investor would pay on some (but not all) of his accumulated income; nor for fluctuation in interest rates; but I hope they illustrate the lack of logic of the original proposition.

I remain your Obedient Servant,  
GILBERT ROWNERRY,  
8 Ascot Towers,  
Ascot,  
Berks.

February 11.

## Group out to legalize 'citizen's radio'

By Bill Johnstone

A national committee has been formed to lobby for the legalization of citizens' band radio in the United Kingdom which could raise millions of pounds in government revenue and provide thousands of new manufacturing jobs, its supporters believe.

The formation of a committee is the latest in a series of moves by the nine citizens' band (CB) user associations within Britain to achieve respectability. These associations, which claim a total of 8,000 members, are the main source of information about developments in CB for enthusiasts.

"Exporters have an extra interest in the control of inflation and broadly accept the need for cuts in public spending wherever these can be found."

The system is legal in 19 countries, of which 13 are European, but in Britain it uses of such devices as is still legal.

The most prolific user in the world is undoubtedly America, where the units have gained unrivalled popularity since their introduction in 1973 to such a degree that 10 million owners of these sets have developed a language of their own, immortalized in the pop hit song "Convoy".

The first moves towards a national campaign took place during a convention in Wednesday in December last year, when representatives of the nine associations voted for the creation of a national committee.

"We cannot be happy with a 4.5 per cent increase in volume of exports because the increase is substantially due to higher exports of oil," he said.

Lord Limerick is optimistic that the increase in charges offered by the new committee will not be as bad as the first year.

"It is not good for British exports," Lord Limerick admitted.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## France's way with foreigners

Thorn is the latest British company apparently to fall foul of France's nationalistic attitude towards foreign investment. After about six months' delay, it seems that the French authorities are trying to persuade local companies to pick up the interest in Locatel, a television rental company which Thorn would like to buy.

On the face of it, France's foreign investment rules are no more strict than elsewhere in Europe. No official permission is needed for foreign companies to acquire up to 20 per cent of French ones, a provision much in line with France's neighbours.

The difficulties arise when control, rather than an interest, is the object of foreign investment. Companies, particularly British and American, have noted two common experiences. Clear rules are hard to find, and once the government steps in, innumerable delays follow. With some justification companies have suggested that the delays are a deliberate deterrent device.

The French authorities say they prefer their companies to be owned by local interests, and arranging a counter-bid is often complicated. They are especially suspicious of international companies, which they regard as stalking horses for Anglo-Saxon influence, and liable to increase imports into France. Despite assurances from Thorn, it is still believed by some people in Paris that Locatel might be used as a way of flooding France with Japanese electronic goods.

Electronics is an especially sensitive area. The present Thomson-Brandt organization was created by government pressure to resist American and German penetration of the French market. Similar strategic considerations applied to nuclear reactors, aircraft, and vehicles.

It may be that the practice of investment in France is much more involved than the rules suggest. No wonder that foreigners often feel they are not wanted. But it is hard to argue that the prosperity of France has been adversely affected.

Yesterday's third quarter figures for the public sector borrowing requirement were not encouraging. They show that after the first nine months of the present financial year, public sector borrowing totalled £11,072m on an unadjusted basis and £9,966m after seasonal adjustment.

The Government is going to need an unusually large surplus over the final three months of the year to meet the Chancellor's latest full year PSBR estimate of around £9,000m.

It appears to be reasonably confident, however, that the final outcome will in fact be on the right side of the £9,000m figure. For in addition to the additional revenues the Government announced for the final quarter, the asset sales target now appears to be seven up and the higher-than-forecast rises in average earnings have boosted income tax receipts.

Not that any of this meant much to financial markets yesterday. Nor indeed did (highly) provisional October-December stockbuilding figures that did not entirely square with last autumn's buoyancy in bank lending. The focus of attention is now firmly fixed on interest rate developments on the other side of the Atlantic and what the Chancellor may or may not do on March 26.

### Bath and Portland

### The Iranian episode

There comes a point in any dispute when it is time to call it a day and Bath and Portland's patience with Iran over its £100m road contract there has now run out.

Cushioned by the knowledge that some 30 per cent of the contract is insured through the Export Credits Guarantee Department, the group has given the Iranian authorities one last chance to meet its obligations—

### DEUTSCHE BABCOCK

Deutsche Babcock's losses so far on the Neka power plant project in Iran total £m40m. Executive board chairman Hert Hans Ewaldsen told a press conference that the losses are not retrievable through West Germany's officially backed export insurance scheme.

Hert Ewaldsen said work on the Neka plant on the Caspian Sea coast cannot be completed as no gas or oil is being supplied to it, and the planned power transmission line from the plant is not completed. Reuter.

### CENTROMIN COPPER PLAN

Centromin, Peru's mining corporation, has obtained \$350m worth of credits for its copper expansion programme. Señor Guillermo Flores Pinedo, chairman, said Señor Flores said a new \$35m loan from the Inter-American Development Bank, added to earlier credits from other sources, brought the total credit available to \$350m.

The first stage of the long-delayed programme will expand output at the Cobriza copper mine, in the Central Andes, to 26,000 tonnes from 16,000 tonnes a year. Reuter.

### ST ANDREW TRUST

Net revenues, after tax, for 1979, £230,000 (£165,000). Total gross dividend, £p (7.12p), plus special payment of 1.42p (nil).

### GRIPPERODS HOLDINGS

Turnover for six months to October 31, rose from £5.84m to £5.95m and pretax profit from £475,000 to £550,000. Interim payment raised from 1.81p to 2.25p.

### RACAL-DECCA

Racal Electronics has formally notified Decca that it holds 1.75m ordinary shares in Decca. Mr. Samual Investment Management, as associates of Racal, have bought 400 GEC shares at 38p for a discretionary investment client.

### Business Diary: Good for film making • Rising star in stocks

Hollywood is fast intruding into life at the Mayfair offices of Arthur Guinness and Son, where talk of toupes, stout and television commercials is usually the order of the day.

Richard St John, star of the company's recently acquired film production group, is to be found there, talking to film men about next year's big films, laying the groundwork for this year's releases and delighting in the laissez-faire management attitude of his new bosses.

"Guinness are just great—they leave me alone", says St John, whose Hollywood background lies in his mother Adela, one-time Los Angeles journalist and script editor for RKO, and now a frequent interviewee on Thames Television's Tuesday night series on the early film industry.

The Irish drinking company inherited a stake in St John's Los Angeles Film Finance Group through its takeover of the Kimpler advertising agency. It increased its stake to 60 per cent last year.

The fruits are now starting to appear, all of them with St John's name on the billing as executive producer.

Front runners for success are

Sadly, one-time British television commercial director, Ridley Scott, who directed *Alien*, will not be working on *Dead and Buried*, having progressed to directorial stardom in Hollywood.

St John's limits Film Finance Group's stake in productions to no more than 10 per cent and raises the rest of the budget from the big studios, conventional sources and pre-sale advances.

He sees FFG's role as that of a developer of sound commercial ideas and refuses to consider propositions from unproven sources or schemes which are not fully worked out before they reach him.

The Guinness money will stay, to a large extent, in Hollywood. St John's says that is where the talent is, though he is spending some money on *The Final Countdown* in England on special effects and the score.

One unexpected consequence of the Russian occupation of Afghanistan is the disappearance of cheaper fox furs. Before the Russian's moved in, the Afghani traders used to send their supply of pelts over the Pakistan border where they were sold to western fur merchants. But the effective closure of the North-West frontier border has led to a dearth of Afghani grey skins with the consequent result of a dramatic increase in prices.

Roger Underhill, Director General of the Advertising Association, faces a hectic weekend of scribbling reports, thanks to a bottleneck of important events.

The Institute of Practitioners in Advertising's important 1980 conference opens at Stratford on Sunday, two days before the equally important EEC Commission public hearing on consumer affairs legislation in Dublin.

Underhill will be one of those responsible for the advertising industry's contribution to the Dublin's debate, which will cover such controversial matters as statutory controls on advertising and product liability.

If Underhill feels over-worked, he should pity the poor hacks. The Advertising Standard Authority has decided to unveil its programme for 1980 at a press conference on Monday afternoon in London.

• The mighty Halifax Building Society is jumping up to the clearing banks' bandwagon and launching its own cash dispensing card next month.

But the philosophy of "if you can't beat 'em join 'em" is not the reason why.

Cardcash, the pride and joy of general manager and director, Calum Macaskill, is yet another way in which the building societies are setting out to fill the breach left when banks shut up shop on Saturday mornings.

Instead of queuing in the local Halifax branch, Cardcash holders can now draw up to £200 in notes from the cash dispenser. However, as building societies are not empowered to let their investing members go into the red, the machine politely refuses to cough up if the money is not there.

The Halifax has run a pilot scheme with its own staff for 12 months.

In order to use Cardcash properly there is little doubt that people will want to have their salaries paid directly to the building society. But one man who will not is director and chief general manager, Albert Thayre. Pleased as he is with the prospects for this particular bit of plastic, he prefers the anonymity of the bank he has used all his life.

• British and Australian engineers will be working shortly in the river Kwai Noy valley where allied prisoners built the notorious Bangkok to Rangoon railway during the Second World War.

Sheridan Contractors of Birmingham, the pride and joy of general manager and director, Calum Macaskill, is yet another way in which the building societies are setting out to fill the breach left when banks shut up shop on Saturday mornings.

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David Hewson

Peter Hill reports on the efforts being made to cut the steel industry down to size

## BSC's grim vision of the future

Today the British Steel Corporation will receive the steel unions' counter proposals to its "final offer". Given that the strike is about to enter its third month and attitudes on both sides have become increasingly bitter, prospects of real progress towards a resolution of the dispute are far from bright. But the dispute over the size of the eventual settlement is only part of the appalling prospect for the corporation.

stronger than the one we have put forward", he says. That assertive view is shared not only by managing directors of divisions but by the corporation's analysts and marketing and sales teams. But are their prognoses correct?

The corporation claims that the evidence suggests that they are. But the BSC's record in forecasting future prices has not been good, however. This time, however, it believes that it is more than directionally correct.

It is no use, says Mr Gordon Sambrook, the corporation's commercial managing director, for the unions to urge BSC to sell more—against the background of a 100 million tonne surplus of world capacity and highly competitive foreign prices.

As the charts indicate, the outlook is gloomy in the big steel using industries and the strength of sterling is acting against foreign sales. Exports to the United States—where any at the moment—would be costing the corporation £30 a tonne in lost profits. The strength of the pound coupled with inflation, and the BSC's present cost structure is in the planned export curtailment.

The message which the corporation has sought to impress on the unions is quite simply that the steel market has fundamentally changed, that other nations have reacted to it and unless the BSC reacts to the consequences will be even more far-reaching. United Kingdom demand for finished steel in the coming financial year, according to the corporation's forecasts, will be around 14.2 million tonnes against an average level in recent years of about 15.5 million tonnes.

For the vital strip mill works of South Wales—Llanwern and

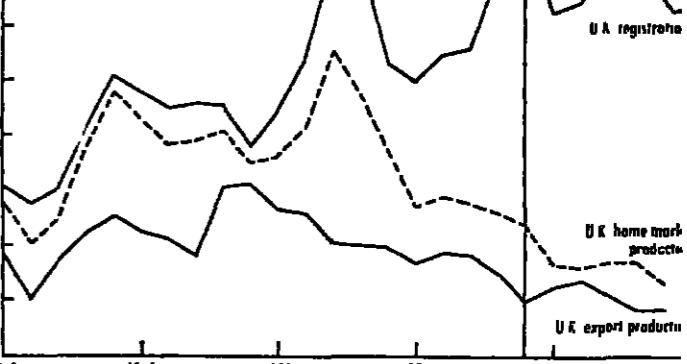
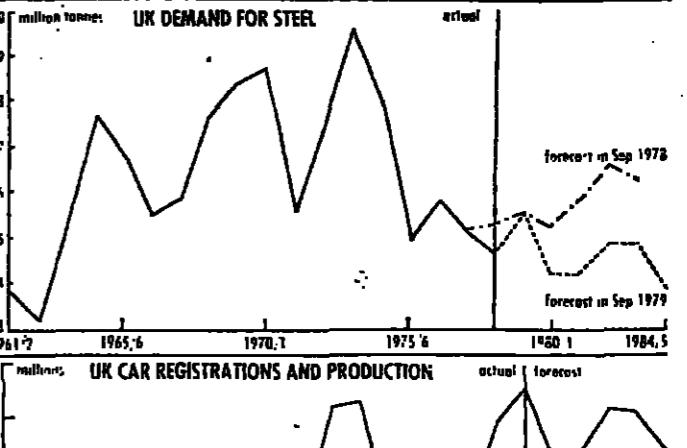
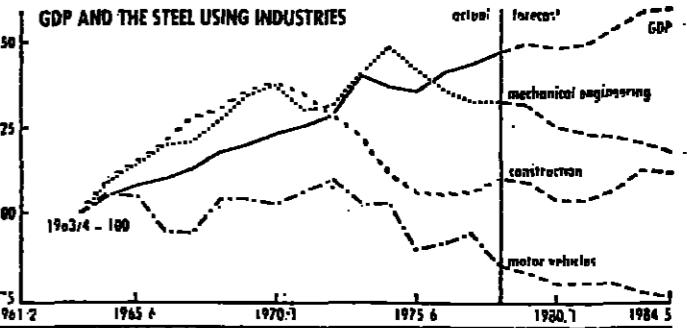
Port Talbot—together with Rotherham in Scotland, the impact of the slump is serious indeed. Capacity for strip mill products is about 7.3 million tonnes against a forecast home demand of 4.5 million tonnes. Therein the corporation argues, lies the source of the case for the "diminishing" operation of the two Welsh plants with a loss of 11,500 jobs and the operation of Rotherham at around its theoretical break-even level of 2 million tonnes.

There is growing evidence that companies which have relied on BSC for supplies are ordering supplies from overseas for delivery up to the end of June; those which have developed second sourcing of their foreign purchases.

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For the vital strip mill works of South Wales—Llanwern and



## How the US grain embargo will affect Russian diets

President Carter's embargo on additional exports of grain and soya beans to the Soviet Union

is also argued that strategic mistakes were made in the past. In the 1950s Khrushchev extended the cultivated area eastwards instead of intensifying agriculture in the western regions. This was followed by an excessive emphasis on the cultivation of maize which proved to be misplaced.

In 1973—and the situation is not much different today—average meat consumption per head of population was 56 kilograms, an amount less than that normally demanded by an urban industrial society.

In 1973 meat consumption averaged 78 kg in Poland and almost 80 kg in Czechoslovakia and Hungary. The latter figure corresponds to West European levels if account is taken of the fact that these figures should be reduced by 10 per cent to convert them to a western statistical basis.

These facts are recognized by Soviet planners who set a norm of 82 kg for average meat consumption in 1990. As a corollary of this it is proposed to reduce the consumption of flour and flour products from 149 kg per head in 1975 to 120 kg and of potatoes from 120 kg to 97 kg on the principle that with rising incomes less starchy food and more meat is demanded.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Tone firmer but buyers still hold off

Equities were still unable to coax back the buyers into the market yesterday. Industrial unrest and inflation worries continued to take their toll ahead of The Budget.

However, the market tone was generally firmer, helped by the strong rally overnight on Wall Street. But after a fairly optimistic start it was still not enough to lift prices over here, which again fizzled out on lack of follow through. Nevertheless, there were some buyers about. They were extremely choosy, going for specialist situations, as in oils and gold shares, or purely speculative lines in the hope of making a quick profit.

In the event, it was oils which stole the show, with dealers reporting some heavy turnover, particularly in the majors, as investors took their cue from hectic trading in New York. Golds too came in for some heavy buying, unaffected by the lower than expected bullion price fixing earlier that morning.

Gilts had something of a topsy-turvy day as the different market elements had prices swaying backwards and forwards.

Longs got off to a good start, but eased off in some thin trading after hours on news of the latest rise in United States prime rates to 16 per cent. They finished unchanged on the day.

Shorts had something of a slow start, only to pick up on news of the miners' rejection of a strike call. But the latest CGBR figures at the close saw them easier again finishing with rises of between 1/2 and 1/4.

Trading began to ease after hours on reports that Wall St. which has set the pace for most

of the week, had again taken a turn for the worse. In the event the FT Index closed 0.7 off at 457.6, after being 2.5 down at 11 am.

Lending industrials were in better form with interest being expressed ahead of ICI's full year figures next week. ICI itself was 2p higher at 392, accompanied by Unilever, 3p stronger at 461p, Beecham at 126p and Fisons at 284p, both 2p firmer. Dunlop were again

up 2p, while the miners were 2p higher at 392, accompanied by Unilever, 3p stronger at 461p, Beecham at 126p and Fisons at 284p, both 2p firmer. Dunlop were again

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wanted, on hopes of Guthrie buying its plantation interests, rising 3p to 69p. Pilkington Bros was 3p lower at 220p, as profit taking wiped out all the earlier speculative gains.

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## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int'l Fin	£m	£m	£m per share	pence	date	total
A. I. Indust (P)	19.2(19.0)	0.66(0.21)	0.54(10.55)	—	8/4	0.48(1.43)
Bingh. & Portland (F)	74.689	2.76(5.17)	9.5(16.2)	2(2)	2/4	3.5(3.6)
Date Electric (I)	11.1(13.7)	0.43(1.91)	1.57(6.51)	1.4(1.4)	—	(4.12)
Goode Durrant (F)	41.19(50.45)	1.51(0.93)	3.7(2.2)	0.75(0.25)	28/3	0.75(0.25)
Griperoddy (I)	6.96(5.84)	0.55(0.47)	10.7(6.55)	2.25(1.81)	3/4	—(5.19)
Mooloya Inv. (I)	1.7(1.91)	0.24(0.14)	1.5(6.55)	—	—	—
Newbold & Sons (F)	11.61(5.92)	0.84(0.56)	13.5(6.55)	2.38(1.57b)	3/4	3.78(2.48b)
Mr. J. P. Hallinan (I)	9.86(8.37e)	0.71(0.56)	7.48(7.42e)	1.03(2.00e)	6/5	(9.97b)
Sime Darby (I)	1.10(1.858.2)	135.2(111.3)	12.18(9.34d)	3.6(3.01d)	—	—
West'd Daves (I)	2.2(1.71)	0.12(0.02a)	4.48(0.75a)	0.5(0.05a)	15/4	2.5(—)
E. Wardle (F)	31.6(26.4)	0.93(0.57)	4.22(3.11)	1.22(1.22)	3/4	2(2.1)
Western S. Int'l (F)	—	—	—	—	—	—

Profit and earnings are in £m. a=Loss. b=Adjusted for scrip issue. c=Figures are in Malaysian dollars. d=Figures are in Malaysian cents. e=For seven months period.

## Reorganization follows loss at Wardle

By Philip Robinson

Bernard Wardle, the Cheshire-based plastics group, currently on the receiving end of a take-over bid, disclosed details of a major reorganization yesterday involving its Dutch subsidiary and its factory in Wales.

Although the group is still negotiating with the union over the closure of the Everflex factory at Caernarfon, the loss of 120 jobs, Wardle has already set aside a sum to cover redundancy costs and made provision for writing-off the plant in the accounting year which ended on December 2 1979.

They have also made provision for write-offs relating to their Dutch subsidiary Schotte.

group by maintaining the division".

The gross final is barely changed on last year at 1.2p, but the higher interim paid when prospects for the year looked promising lifts the gross total from 2.02p to 2.184p.

But after making provisions for the closure and sale, and doubled interest of £578,000 and a tax charge of £134,000, profits of £1.4m at the attributable level dived to a loss of £388,000.

The Dutch group Schotte went almost £200,000 further into the red to £449,000 and a provision for its write-off and that of the Caernarfon factory cost the group around £1.1m.

But group managing director and chief executive Mr John Sharpe, said: "We have demonstrated our confidence in the

bought the plastic sheeting company of Armormide at Colne, Lancashire, which has spare capacity to produce the leather cloth currently made at Everflex. The total number of jobs at Armormide available will be 600, reducing the net job loss of the group to 200. Mr East said: "We are trying to get down to the lowest cost source. We can do that by transferred Everflex production to Armormide. But the costs will rise if we try to move Armormide's production to Everflex."

The group is still waiting for details of Birmingham and Midland Counties' Trust's £4.1 million bid for the 70 per cent of Wardle it does not already own. The offer document is expected within 10 days.

## Albright figures depressed by strikes

By Michael Prest

A strong pound and the engineering and road haulage strikes continued to depress profits at Albright & Wilson, the chemicals group, for the second year running. Pre-tax profits for 1979 fell by about £19m.

Albright, which became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the American energy company Tenneco in 1978, says that the problems in the United Kingdom were partly offset by better results overseas. Over half of operating profits come from abroad.

But the company stresses that underlying business in the United Kingdom was not bad. A steady strengthening of sterling last year cost about £1.6m, while the strikes, although not quantified, are described as costing "a lot" in lost profits. Pre-tax profits in 1977 were £35.4m.

All overseas markets and operations did well, with Canada, the biggest, France, Italy, Spain and Australia standing out.

Higher interest rates, plus extra borrowings to finance the company's investment programme, pushed net interest charges up from £2.05m to £3.33m. The company says that it will continue with existing capital spending plans, but may have to reconsider further developments if high interest rates persist.

A dividend of 51m was paid to Tenneco, compared with 55m in the previous year. But Albright points out that since the parent company's investment in it was £6m last year, the net payout was about the same.

## BSR shares jump on bid rumours

By Our Financial Staff

Bunzl Pulp and Paper is raising £19.6m through the sale of 99.79 per cent holding in the Austrian subsidiary Bunzl and Biach.

The cash will be used to reduce the group's gearing from the 1978 level when borrowings amounted to around 50 per cent of shareholders' funds, to nearer 20 per cent.

Since Bunzl acquired its stake in 1970, the Austrian offshoot has had a mixed profits record and in 1978 made a loss of £289,000. However, it did make a profit in 1979 but in order to

## Changes on board at Audiotronic

By Rosemary Unsworth

The boards of Audiotronic and Change Wares, which were both previously chaired by Mr Geoffrey Rose, have had a shake-up following the decision by Mr Rose and his American associates to part company.

Mr Rose, who remains as chairman of Audiotronic, the hi-fi and audio equipment distributor, sold his 7 per cent stake in Change Wares to Mr B. Selzer and Mr D. Sullivan, who will remain on the Change Wares board. A new chairman and group managing director will be appointed.

In return, the two Americans will sell their 800,000 Audiotronic shares to Mr Rose, who now has a 10.2 per cent holding. They have also resigned as preferred directors of Audiotronic, along with Mr J. Gerson and Mr J. Krapf, who were ordinary directors. Mr Hamish Janson and Mr Alexander MacPherson have been appointed as preferred directors.

## Cannon record

Cannon Inc, a Japanese maker of cameras, reports a pre-tax profit in 1979 of £1.16m, a record, up 51 per cent from the previous year.

General Occidentale

General Occidentale, parent company of Cavenham, reported a pre-tax profit of £1.16m, up 51 per cent from the previous year.

Harvester loss

International Harvester's loss of £92.2m in the first quarter and January 1980 was due to strike, which has shut down its United States plants since the quarter began.

Harvester's

is mid-quarter, the company stated the first quarter loss.

Industrial deliveries of farm equipment in the United States market in the quarter and January 1980, with dealers reporting a 20 per cent drop, most of the business

in the United States market is

in the first quarter.

Options

## Mooloya losses continue to mount

By Our Financial Staff

Mooloya Investments, whose share deals for the past year are being investigated by the Stock Exchange, reported half-year profits deeper in the red yesterday.

For the six months to the end of April last year, losses totalled £322,000, against a loss of £161,000 during the previous 16 months to the end of October 1978. The half-time figures include a full contribution from the stretch cover group Customatic, which Mooloya bought last March, while the comparable figures take in Customatic results for just over three months.

Mooloya directors, now headed by Mr Christopher Baldwin of Wessels Ltd, following his purchase of 23 per cent of the former, are advising shareholders not to accept the 50p share offer from former chairman Mr Roy Strudwick's company, Bonner Park.

In their opinion the group, which has assets of 49p a share, is worth much more than the 50p price tag put on it by the Jersey-based millionaire, Mr Strudwick.

The offer from Bonner Park, a subsidiary of Mr Strudwick's privately-controlled Supreme Investments, was made in January following news that Bonner Park had increased its stake to 40 per cent and thus triggered a full take-over. A buying spree in the stock market took the Bonner Park holding to 50.07 per cent and there it has remained despite the fact that the shares are changing hands at below the bid price.

Mr Strudwick's advisers, Barclays Merchant Bank, admit that now that it has full voting control of the company, this is the level at which Bonner Park is quite likely to stick.

Mr Strudwick, who brought Royco to market in 1972, last year initiated a scheme to give shareholders a cash repayment of 20p a share at a cost to the group of £4m.

Meanwhile, conditional agreements have been signed to extend Customatic's European trade mark licence world-wide, and limit the company's liability to further royalties to

£700,000.

## Royco directors advise against Bonnerpark offer

By Alison Mitchell

The independent directors of

building group Royco are

advising shareholders not to

accept the 50p share offer

from former chairman Mr Roy Strudwick's company, Bonner

Park.

In their opinion the group,

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The offer from Bonner

Park, a subsidiary of Mr Strudwick's privately-controlled Supreme Investments, was made in

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Uranium profits soar at Mary Kathleen

Pre-tax profits at Mary Kathleen, owned by the Australian producers indirectly controlled by Rio Tinto-Zinc, soared last year from \$A570,000 to \$A17.3m (\$8.52m). Furthermore, accumulated tax losses meant that no tax was payable, though the company warns that it will become liable to taxation this year.

No dividends are being paid, but production was up from 608 tonnes of Uranium in 1978 to 832 tonnes. Output in the fourth quarter was 233.7 tonnes.

Another Australian company, Western Mining, announced that it will not extend its bid for BH South because CTB nominees, holders of 15.3 per cent of BH South, have rejected the offer. Acceptances came to 53.3 per cent by January 18. Some of BH South's assets will be sold to Conzinc RioTinto of Australia.

The great Australian diamond rush also received another fillip yesterday with the news that Penhill, Australia's largest United States company, is expected to start prospecting seriously for stones at Rutherford, some 300 kilometres north of Melbourne. The other big rush of the moment, gold, has encouraged the Philippines to raise gold production. Output is expected to rise from 17,450 kilogrammes last year to 20,152 this year. The extra gold will come from new mines, higher output from existing ones, and more production as a by-product from copper.

Platinum is another precious metal which has benefited from the boom. But Sir Albert Robinson, chairman of Rustenburg Platinum, warns in his annual review, that the free market price has been driven to levels unjustified by normal market considerations. He says that sales in the first half of 1980 will be lower than in the same period last year because of falling demand for cars in the United States.

The South African gold and investment group, Gold Fields of South Africa, made pre-tax profits in the six months to September 20, of R1.33m (\$740,000) compared with R1.35m for the whole of the previous financial year.

Amalgamated Tin Mines of Nigeria is proposing to return \$1.17m in surplus funds to shareholders by way of a capital payment of 9p a share and two interim dividends of 3p net each. The capital arises from the enforced sale of assets in Nigeria.

## Sotheby's capital spending rises to £5.1m

Capital spending of fine art auctioneers Sotheby Parke-Bernet rose last year from £1.69 million to £5.1 million. The major part of the programme went on the Aeolian Hall, opposite the group's London premises in Bond Street. Sotheby Beresford Adams and the new property at 1334 York Avenue at 72nd Street in New York.

In August the group bought a 30-year lease on the New York property and intends to buy the freehold for \$80,000,000 this year, under special finance agreements with the group's bankers.

Auction sales for the first four months of the current year are 31 per cent ahead at £94.34 million, with the most significant advance coming from the United States and Canada.

**AVON RUBBER**  
Lord Farnham, chairman, told the annual meeting that order books in most group companies are healthy, although margins are under continuing pressure. Board believes improvement in year's profits is still possible.

## Bank Base Rates

Bank Base Rates		Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 11%	
Last week £100,000 £100,000 £100,000 £100,000		£100,000 £100,000 £100,000 £100,000	
Discount Mortgages		£100,000 £100,000 £100,000 £100,000	
High Yield		£100,000 £100,000 £100,000 £100,000	
Week Fixed 1%		1% 1% 1% 1%	
Treasury Bills/Divs.		Selling 1% 1% 1% 1%	
Holding 1% 1% 1% 1%		1% 1% 1% 1%	
3 months 1% 1% 1% 1%		1% 1% 1% 1%	
Prime Bank Bills/Divs./Trade Divs.		1% 1% 1% 1%	
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# **BELL'S** SCOTCH WHISKY **BELL'S**

## Stock Exchange Prices **Oils buoyant**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 11. Dealings End, Feb 22. § Contango Day, Feb 25. Settlement Day, March 3  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

... No

## Motoring

## Sympathy and cash for banned drivers

The drinking and driving laws are often criticized for being ineffectual and the Government is considering a belated implementation of the recommendations of the Blennerhasset committee, which reported nearly four years ago.

The controversial issue is so-called random breath testing. Blennerhasset proposed that the police power to administer tests should be "unfettered", although that has not been taken to mean that officers would lie in wait outside public houses. It is an issue on which the Government has yet to make up its mind.

That something needs to be done to deter the drinking driver is underlined by Department of Transport statistics showing that 1,200 road accident deaths a year are the result of drunken driving and that one car driver in every three killed is above the legal blood-alcohol limit.

Mr O'Neill's customers, there are 40,000 of them and the number has doubled in the last five years, are predominantly professional people like accountants, lawyers, doctors and estate agents for whom the use of a car is essential to their work.

Against that background it is not easy to have sympathy with bodies which offer insurance to motorists against losing their licences. Surely that is only encouraging irresponsible drivers to drink with impunity knowing that they will not suffer the ultimate sanction of losing their personal mobility?

It is a question that is often put to Mr Martin O'Neill. He is managing director of St Christopher Motorists' Security Association which offers cover against disqualification—whether through a drink offence or the totting up process—as well as loss of the car through damage or theft. For a premium of £48 a year, a motorist can receive up to £3,640 to cover him to hire a vehicle with a driver or pay a chauffeur.

Not surprisingly, Mr O'Neill is quick to reject the charge of irresponsibility. He points out that a convicted driver is still fined, that the penalty remains on his record, that he will probably carry a social stigma and that his car insurance, when he can resume driving, may well double.

Second, St Christopher tries to exclude the really heavy drinkers by refusing to cover motorists with a blood-alcohol count of over 160 mg a ml, or twice the legal limit. Third, if a person is disqualified, he is not entitled to make a further claim on St Christopher for three years.

Mr O'Neill's customers, there are 40,000 of them and the number has doubled in the last five years, are predominantly professional people like accountants, lawyers, doctors and estate agents for whom the use of a car is essential to their work.

Not so long ago, most Japanese cars seemed to sell on reliability and

little else—not that I am criticizing motorists who value a car's ability to start first time and travel from A to B without breaking down above advanced technical features like front-wheel drive and independent rear suspension. As vehicles to drive, they often left much to be desired, being notable for vague steering, instability in cross winds and poor ride; they were cramped inside, particularly in the rear seat; and the styling was bastardized Detroit.

No heaven help the poor British car industry. Japanese models are not only reliable but becoming more competitive in other respects.

They are getting more "European", both in appearance and mechanical layout. That is evident in the Datsun range, in the latest Toyota Corolla which goes on sale in Britain next



Getting better—the revised Colt Lancer

mouth and in the revised Colt medium car, the Lancer.

The extent of the improvement should not be exaggerated. The Lancer has not suddenly been transformed into a Citroen or even a Peugeot. It remains a conventional, unprepossessing four-door family saloon in the Ford Cortina/Vauxhall Cavalier mould, although without the space of the former or the fine, taut handling of the latter. Overall it is much less easy to criticize this Lancer than its predecessors: not an outstanding car in any respect, but a thoroughly competent one.

The move to a more European design begins with the styling: the new bodyshell being crisp and less embellished than before, with more glass area and the fashionably sloping front end. The body is also higher and wider, increasing interior

space, but a tall person will still be pushed for legroom in the back. As on other Japanese cars, I found the front door opening rather narrow and the boot, despite its depth, is small for the class of car.

There is a good driving position, seat and steering wheel being adjustable to suit most shapes and sizes. Steering wheel height variation is an excellent feature and I wish more cars had it. The controls and instruments are neat and functional and I thought the heating and ventilation system, with its large number of permutations, a cut above many. The seats are covered in an attractive velour cloth, indeed the whole interior is attractively trimmed and finished.

The Lancer comes with a choice of 1600cc and 1400cc engines. Driving the smaller, I enjoyed instant starting and lively acceleration (0 to 60 mph in about 14 seconds) with reasonable flexibility. The engine is smooth and quiet when treated gently but has a throaty growl if pressed hard or driven above 60 mph in top. There is little wind or road noise. On fuel consumption I returned a creditable 28 to 35 miles to the gallon.

Handling and ride are areas where Japanese cars are often let down but if the Lancer is not yet up with the best European models in either respect, it is closing the gap.

Continued adherence to the old design, with the styling of the new bodyshell being crisp and less embellished than before, with more glass area and the fashionably sloping front end. The body is also higher and wider, increasing interior

The vehicle corners well, with little roll and firm roadholding, the brakes are good and the four-speed gearbox a delight. On ride, the substitution of coil for leaf springs has meant a considerable improvement and I can think of few Japanese cars that soak up bumps as well.

Coming £4,399, the Lancer 1400 offers a high level of standard equipment, including a laminated windscreen, radio and aerial, halogen headlamps and electronic ignition.

#### Clever Engine

Saab has developed an ingenious electronic system that enables a car engine to run on fuel of octane ratings from 90 to 99 in British terms, from two-star to the top-grade four-star petrol—without prior adjustment. It also improves performance and fuel consumption.

Known as APC (for automatic performance control), the system is about to undergo final tests before being incorporated into the Saab turbocharged engine in about a year. At its heart are an electronic "black box" and solenoid valve which allow the engine to adjust itself automatically to the quality and octane rating of the fuel used.

That, in turn, improves engine efficiency which, together with an increase in compression ratio, reduces fuel consumption of the turbo unit by up to 8 per cent. The gains in acceleration are even better—between 15 and 20 per cent.

Peter Waymark

## CAR BUYER'S GUIDE

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1985 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III "Flying Spur" Saloon by H. J. Mulliner. Regal Red with Beige hide, recording only 30,000 miles, and the second of this rare series offered by us this year.

1985 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III D.H.C. by Mulliner-Park Ward. Walnut with Magnolia hide; recently subject to considerable expenditure.

1985 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III 4-door Saloon. Black over Dawn Blue, with blue/grey hide. With a good history, including a recent overhaul of engine and suspension.

1973 Bentley T-Type Saloon. Larch green with Beige hide. Full 1973 features and an excellent service history.

1961 Rolls-Royce Phantom V Limousine. Sand over sable, with many special features and fully detailed under our supervision.

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ROLLS-ROYCE  
SILVER CLOUD III  
1974. Regal Red. Privately owned, as new. 30,000 miles. Total strip and re-paint. £10,950.  
£11,500 or £11,500 less 5%.

BENTLEY T 1975 P Reg  
White, dark green, leather  
and upholstery. Immaculate.  
£18,950

### CAR LEASING

VW AUDI  
LEASING

JOHN ASHLEY  
MOTORS LTD.  
75-77 Penshaw Rd.,  
Kingston, Surrey.  
Tel. 01-546 4551  
01-549 1997

### S. E. Thomas & Co. (Chiswick) Ltd.

1979 V CX 2400 Pallas. Injection. C-matic, electric sun roof, 7,000 miles. £16,650.  
1979 V CX 2400 Pallas. Injection. C-matic, 4,000 miles.  
1979 CX 2400 Safari. 14,000 miles. £5,250.  
1978 T CX 2400 Safari. 18,000 miles. £4,650.  
1979 V CX Athens. 3,000 miles. £5,750.  
1979 GS Palas. Choice from £3,495.  
1979 GS Club Estate. Choice from £3,400.  
1979 2CV6. 5,000 miles. £1,975.

EXPORT & LEASING SPECIALISTS  
252/264 Goldhawk Road, W12. Tel. 749 6091

### CITROËN

#### SILVER WRAITH II WITH DIVISION

V. Registration. Athenian blue. Blue Everflex roof, blue hide, interior. Cassette player. White-wall tyres. Under 200 miles.

RARE CAR  
£55,000  
01-423 1046

MERCEDES 500 SE  
17,000 miles.  
Prestige. 4.5 litre. 5 speed. Auto. £10,000. Tel.  
704 0757.

£4,700  
Tel. (0285) 61117

### VOLVO 245

Registered 1978.  
27,000 miles. Silver  
Metallic. Fuel inject.  
Overdrive. Stereo.  
Radio Cassette.

£4,750 o.n.o.  
0600 3535  
or 0989 3527

### DATSON 280C 1978

Prec. Automatic. F.A.S.  
Pad/cluster. 35,000 miles  
only, S registered.

£4,700  
Tel. (0285) 61117

### DAIMLER 123 VAN DEN PLAS

Double. 1.1. L.H.D. Mint  
condition. 1.1. 1978. 10,000 miles only.

£14,450 or sensible offer  
Ring 954 3174

### REAL BARGAIN

MERCEDES 350 SL  
AUTOMATIC

Red. H/D. 1977. In perfect  
condition. 1. Lady owner.  
10,000 miles only.

£14,750 or sensible offer  
Ring 954 3174

### JAGUAR "E" TYPE CONVERTIBLE

3.8 litre Series I. L.H.D. Mint  
condition. 24,600 miles.

BRITISH SPORTS CAR  
CENTRIC LTD.  
299,501. GOLDHAWK RD.  
LONDON W12.  
Tel. 01-748 7825. 4.

£7,250 ono

Tel: 0543 472688

### LOTUS ELITE 504

1977. Lagoon blue. 25,000  
miles only, mint condition.

£7,250 ono

Tel: 0543 472688

### OPERATIONS CONTROLLER

WINDSOR

We are a rapidly growing inter-  
national company with a  
global reach.

Excellent opportunities for  
international travel and  
experience.

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## PERSONAL CHOICE

Margareta Scott who plays Daphne Porter in the Southern Television series *Together* (ITV, 1.30)

● The Lively Arts profile of the American poet Robert Lowell (BBC 2, 8.10) follows close on the heels of Ian Hamilton's and Michael Kustow's anthology at the National Theatre's Cottesloe in which Lowell's grand style, political commitment and the often painfully subjective nature of his poetry, were all given full rein. Tonight's documentary, is all-embracing: elegies from literary witnesses and friends and archive material of the poet himself, including his own reading of his poems and poetry, and just enough filling in of his political, social and literary background to explain why, when Lowell contemplated the world, he so often changed his vantage point. His manic-depressive bouts are most movingly touched upon.

● To watch Bruce Forsyth at work in *Play Your Cards Right* (ITV, 7.30) is like seeing someone use all the energy of Battersea power station to light a pencil tip. The game calls for nerves of steel, nothing else, general knowledge aptitude, physical skill, no mental agility. It does not require an accomplished all-rounder like Mr Forsyth to keep it going.

Any competent quiz master could conduct the proceedings with one hand tied behind his back, blindfolded, standing on one leg and playing bridge at the same time.

● There is some essential background information you should tuck away in your mind before you switch on to tonight's game in Pot-Black (BBC 2, 9.00). The host is Peter Tosh, Terry Griffiths of Wales, and Dennis Taylor, of Northern Ireland. Mr Griffiths won the 1978 World Snooker Championship; the man he beat was the self-same Mr Taylor. Tonight's game is their first clash in the Pot-Black series in which the Welshman has yet to win a victory, whereas the Irishman has one win to his credit. The dramatic nature of tonight's encounter will now have been made absolutely clear to you.

● Next Wednesday's BBC 2 presentation of *The Tempest* is the subject of two curtain-raiser tonight. On BBC 2, at 10.45, Laurens van der Post, discovered on a Mediterranean island, insists that the play is profoundly autobiographical. And on Radio 4, at 8.10, Michael Hordern who plays Prospero in Cedric Messina's production—I have seen it, and I rate Mr Hordern's performance one of the pinnacles in the BBC's current Shakespeare cycle—provides a preface to the play... Radio 4's five-part series about women writers ends today (11.05 am) on what should be a high note: a portrait of Dorothy Parker. Elaine Stritch portrays the American humorist.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: \*STEREO; \*BLACK AND WHITE; (C) REPEAT.

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davall

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Search and Rescue; 7.05 Time, Money and Technology; 7.30 Stereochemistry. Closedown at 7.35.  
8.00 Schools, Colleges: *Triff* (trip); *Deutschland*; 9.25 Athlete (trip); 9.52 Look and Read; 10.15 Maths-in-a-Box; 10.35 Going to Work; 11.00 *Hymn o' Fynd*. 11.25 *You and Me: I Want to Help* (C).  
11.40 Schools, Colleges: *Everyday Maths*; 12.05 pm Your Own Business (improving the environment). Closedown at 12.30.  
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Ian Lyon presents his leisure and holiday choice, and Peter Scarbrook is back in the garden.  
1.15 Schools, Colleges: *Mr Forger and Mr Uppity* (C); *Mr Forger and Mr Uppity* (C).  
2.00 Schools, Colleges: *Scone (The Travellers)*; 2.35 *A Good Job with Prospects* (the planners). Closedown at 3.00.  
2.30 *Postman Cwm*: For Welsh viewers, 3.55 *Play School*: Same as BBC 2, 11.00.  
4.20 *Roobard*: Animated tales for children, told by Richard Briers (C).  
4.30 *Jacksonian*: Final reading from Ursula Mora's William's story *Lucy Shows Lucille a Ball*, demonstrating that a woman comes

and how to 'prepare roast duck with cherry sauce'.  
7.15 News: With subtitles for the hard of hearing.  
7.30 *In the Country*: Last of the series. The wading birds of the Dee Estuary, and the round-up of the Exmoor ponies. Also a discussion on whether nature reserves should be for people as well as will life. With Angela Rippon.

8.00 *The Eddie and Muriel Show*: *One of a new Francis Durbridge thriller*. Martin Jarvis again plays the detective. Tonight, the routine investigation that isn't.

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8.30 *News at Ten*: *News at Ten* (C).  
8.45 *Open University: Your Own Optics Laboratory*: 5.15 Copper as a Resource.

5.40 Harold Lloyd: Highlights from two of this silent film comedian's movies, *Safety Last* (the laundry-ride) and *Get Out and Get Under* (trouble with a Model T). With an irate commentary that irritates.

5.50 Monkey: Old Chinese fantasy, re-told by Japanese TV, with English dubbing.  
6.50 *Delia Smith's Cookery Course*: How to put the taste back into chicken. Also, how to joint a bird

and how to 'prepare roast duck with cherry sauce'.

7.15 News: With subtitles for the hard of hearing.

7.30 *In the Country*: Last of the series. The wading birds of the Dee Estuary, and the round-up of the Exmoor ponies. Also a discussion on whether nature reserves should be for people as well as will life. With Angela Rippon.

8.00 *Robert Lowell: A Life*: Study. The American poet, who died in 1977, is the author of *Life Studies*, *For the Union Dead*, *What Is a Poem?* and *Waking Life*.

8.15 *International Pro-Sobchak*: Gail Lee Disney is joined by the American singer, Star Glyn Campbell, and Ben Crenshaw is partnered by former 007 star Sean Connery.

10.15 *Jazz*: George Wein, creator of the Newport Jazz Festival talks to Mike Hennessey, and we hear comments from Clarence Clemons, Jay McShann and B. B. King.

9.05 *Shakespeare in Perspective*: Laurens van der Post provides a curtain-raiser to next Wednesday's production of *The Taming of the Shrew*.

11.10 *News and weather*.

11.25 *Friday Night... Saturday Morning*: Sophisticated fun from Delia Smith and his guests.

12.15 *Closedown*: Anne Massey reads *Anne Ridder's Choosing a Mate*. Ends at 12.25.

9.00 *Post Black* 1980: Terry Gilligan's last year's *World Snooker Champion* plays the man he defeated in that game, Dennis Taylor. (See Personal Choice.)

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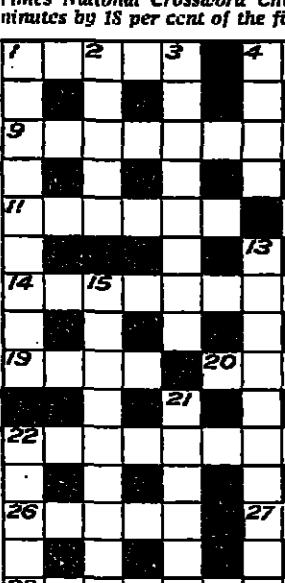
"Send out thy light and thy  
truth: let them lead me: I  
will be still: I will be still."

**BIRTHS**

RAND—On 11th February at St.  
Thomas' Hospital, Putney, to  
Sister Dorothy and Lieutenant  
Commander Jonathan Rand,  
late of the Royal Navy, a son.  
BERRY—On February 17th, to  
John and Dorothy, a son, William.  
BOAS—On 19th February to Sarah  
and Michael, a son, Michael.  
CONYR—On 18th February,  
to Cynthia and John Conyngham,  
a son, Charles Conyngham.  
HARRIS—On 18th February,  
to Diane (née Grove) and David  
Harris, a son, Daniel.  
FURGESSON—On 20th February  
at Westminster Hospital to Shel-  
ley and Michael, a son, Michael.  
A sister for Jamie and Katie.  
GARDNER—To Andrew Jones, wife of Gregory  
Gardner, a daughter, Rebecca  
GARDNER—For Michael and  
Sarah, a son, Joseph.  
MORRISON—On 19th February,  
to Robert Morrison and his  
husband, of Anne of  
Rosary, Station Street, a son.  
HARRIS—At Canterbury Cathedral,  
a son, Christopher, to Michael  
Harris, a son, Christopher.  
QUINNIE—Margaret Quinnie,  
widow of the late Father John  
Quinnie, died peacefully in her  
bungalow, Warwickshire, on 18th  
February, 1980, wife of  
Aiden Bernard and mother of  
James, Michael, and Christopher.  
RICHARDSON—To Andrew  
Richardson, wife of Gregory  
Richardson, a son, Michael.  
WEDDING—On 19th February,  
to Christopher and Elizabeth  
Ward, a son, Christopher.  
WILLIAMS—On 19th February,  
to Diane (née Grove) and David  
Harris, a son, Daniel.  
WICKS—On February 18th, to  
John and Dorothy, a son, a  
daughter, Katherine Louise.

**The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,155**

This puzzle, used at the Chester regional final of the Cutty Sark/  
Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 39  
minutes by 18 per cent of the finalists.



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